



Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

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Wednesday, 23 March 2011, 10 a.m.

New York

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Li Baodong	(China)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalčić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Briens
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Lebanon	Ms. Ziade
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Pankin
	South Africa	Mr. Mashabane
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mr. Dunn

Agenda

Post-conflict peacebuilding

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its fourth session (S/2011/41)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Post-conflict peacebuilding

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its fourth session (S/2011/41)

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite His Excellency Mr. Eugène-Richard Gasana, Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission and Permanent Representative of Rwanda, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now bring its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of members of the Council to document S/2011/41, containing the report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its fourth session.

At this meeting, the Security Council will hear a briefing by His Excellency Mr. Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany and former Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission.

I now give the floor to Mr Wittig.

Mr. Wittig (Germany): On behalf of the members of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), I am pleased to present the report of the Commission on its fourth session (S/2011/41).

Strengthening the peacebuilding agenda, enhancing its impact in the field and providing continued support to the peacebuilding efforts in Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone were at the core of the Commission's work in 2010. In September 2010, the Commission made Liberia the fifth country on the agenda in response to a request from the Security Council on behalf of the Government of Liberia. Most recently, the Commission responded to a request for advice and accompaniment from the Republic of Guinea. This was the first time that such a request was directly submitted to the Commission.

In 2010, peacebuilding and the future role of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture were very prominently discussed within and outside the United Nations. The review, which was ably guided by the

Permanent Representatives of Ireland, Mexico and South Africa, offered an opportunity to appreciate the potentials of and the challenges facing the Commission. The momentum generated by the 2010 review must be maintained especially as the Commission further expands its agenda.

The report of the Peacebuilding Commission reflects a collective effort on the part of the members of its Organizational Committee. Progress has been made in addressing emerging recommendations from the 2010 review, in particular in connection with the creation of a new PBC country-specific configuration on Liberia. The report also reflects the Commission's plans to take forward the recommendations from the review in a way that would facilitate its annual reporting to the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The Commission is proceeding in this direction on the basis of a road map of actions in 2011. It focuses on meeting practical objectives and making concrete progress in enhancing the Commission's impact on national capacity-development, resource mobilization and aligning key actors behind common peacebuilding objectives.

Allow me to highlight a few elements from the report. First, the report underscores the thematic focus of the Commission during its fourth session around the theme "Partnership for peacebuilding". In view of the complexity of peacebuilding challenges and the multiplicity of actors, the need for coherence and partnerships cannot be overemphasized. Building and strengthening partnerships has been identified as a key area of potential value added for the Commission. In this regard, the Organizational Committee devoted the majority of its efforts and time to engaging the international financial institutions, especially the World Bank, and regional organizations, especially the African Union. Generally, the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons focused on joining up with a range of potential partners from civil society and academia.

Secondly, the Commission has particularly prioritized the need to strengthen the interaction with the principal organs of the United Nations. It worked to generate interest in its work across the membership of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. During the reporting period, the Commission witnessed a growing openness and encouraging signs of interest on the part of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council.

The important thematic debates convened by the Security Council between February 2010 and February 2011 offered recurring opportunities for the PBC, the United Nations membership and senior leadership to engage with the Council around critical peacebuilding-related policies. The participation of the World Bank in a number of these debates also confirmed the evolving partnership with the Bank at a time when it is further developing its approach to assisting countries emerging from conflict. Briefings by the Chairs of the country configurations contributed to the discussions of the Council at its periodic considerations of the situations and mandates involving the countries on the Commission's agenda.

Most recently, the Council has engaged the Chairs in informal dialogues on certain country situations. The outcome of the thematic debates and the deepening of the engagement of the Chairs of the PBC country configurations marked an important step towards more serious consideration by the Council of the Commission's advisory role. I would like to advocate for enhanced interaction between the Commission and the Council.

The 2010 review highlighted in particular the potential for developing a dynamic linkage between the Commission and the Council. Eleven of the 15 members of the Security Council are currently members of the PBC. That joint membership provides a natural interface that could facilitate the Council's drawing more actively and regularly on the Commission's advice.

The Commission could provide early peacebuilding perspectives in the design and review of, or transition from, peacekeeping mandates. It could identify and promote country-specific sustainability factors. It could catalyse early partnerships with the international financial institutions. And it could benchmark and monitor the progression from stabilization to transition and consolidation.

The reporting period also witnessed the continuing development of the Commission's relationship with the Economic and Social Council through the established briefing made by the PBC Chairperson to the 2010 substantive session. In addition, the Council and the PBC jointly organized a special event on the Millennium Development Goals in countries emerging from conflict. That event testified to the Commission's growing advocacy role for an integrated approach to peacebuilding, including

through well-deserved focus on the socio-economic dimension of peacebuilding.

Going forward, the Commission looks forward to further deepening its linkages with the General Assembly. There is a clear need to bring to bear the Assembly's perspective on key thematic issues.

Thirdly, the Commission continues to receive direct and substantive support from the Peacebuilding Support Office. Notwithstanding its stretched capacity, the Office has also been an essential linkage between the Commission and the operational entities within and outside the United Nations system. The Office has also continued to provide regular briefings on the activities and operations of the Peacebuilding Fund. Those briefings have contributed to deepening the understanding of the synergy between the Commission and the Fund in the countries on the Commission's agenda. The recently introduced interaction with the Fund's Advisory Group has provided the Commission with an opportunity to address a number of broad policy issues for the Fund.

The Fund's resources, combined with the efforts of the Commission, helped to ensure that the countries on the Commission's agenda benefited from the sustained attention and support of the international community, with 64 per cent of the Fund's total contributions being allocated to those countries.

By linking up the Peacebuilding Commission's work to that of peacekeeping, development and political actors in the field, the Commission has added considerable value. The challenge facing the Commission in demonstrating its full potential, however, is to ensure that its work is backed by a higher level of political commitment from the Member States and the senior leadership of the United Nations. As noted by the co-facilitators of the 2010 review report, "the review should be a wake-up call to strengthen the collective resolve to deal with peacebuilding in a more comprehensive and determined way". (S/2011/41, para. 107)

I hope that today's debate, like the debate that the General Assembly convened earlier in the week, will take us a step further towards realizing the full potential of the Commission as an advisory body that is uniquely positioned to help the United Nations meet the challenges facing our collective capacity to deliver on the promises to respond to the needs of millions of people in countries emerging from conflict.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Ambassador Wittig for his statement.

I now give the floor to His Excellency Mr. Eugène-Richard Gasana, Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission.

Mr. Gasana (Rwanda), Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission: Over the past year, the Security Council convened a number of thematic debates on post-conflict peacebuilding. The frequency of the meetings and the scope of the discussion testify to the growing sense of commitment by the Council to take into consideration the complex challenges facing countries emerging from conflict. The Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) could certainly help the Council to deepen that commitment by providing three main advisory functions.

The first is an early peacebuilding perspective, which could contribute to the Council's consideration of the scope of the roles of peacekeeping missions in, and contributions to, the broader peacebuilding efforts undertaken by other actors in the field.

The second is an inclusive and flexible platform to forge partnerships and engagement with those key actors, thereby ensuring broader buy-in to peacebuilding processes and facilitating informed drawdowns of peacekeeping missions.

The third is supporting the countries on its agenda and monitoring the progression from stabilization to consolidation of peace on the basis of country-specific analyses of risks and opportunities.

I welcome the initial steps taken by the Council thus far to engage the Chairs of country-specific configurations in more interactive and informal dialogues around peacebuilding opportunities and challenges in certain countries on the PBC's agenda.

(*spoke in French*)

In reviewing the peacebuilding architecture, the co-facilitators underscored the potential advantages of broader and more frequent interaction between the Security Council and the Commission. In that regard, the contributions of members of the PBC that are members of the Council are important to achieving that goal. As the new Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission, I am prepared to work closely with those members of Council, as well as with all other

members, in order to identify appropriate measures to inject new momentum into that interaction.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Ambassador Gasana for his briefing.

I shall now give the floor to the members of the Council.

Mr. Parham (United Kingdom): I would like to start by thanking Ambassador Wittig and Ambassador Gasana for their very helpful briefings this morning. We are very grateful to Ambassador Wittig for his dedicated work over the past year, as well for the work of the Permanent Representatives of Canada, Belgium, Brazil, Jordan, Nepal and Switzerland in their roles as Chairs.

The annual report (S/2011/41) and the review of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) provided useful opportunities to take stock of the PBC's work. They described many of the Commission's achievements, as well as the challenges that the PBC faces. In looking at the focus of the PBC over the coming months, we should, in our view, consider three particular objectives.

The first concerns results and the need for the PBC to demonstrate clearly its contribution to addressing critical peacebuilding bottlenecks for the countries on its agenda. For example, the PBC needs to focus on galvanizing all those who need to contribute to the establishment of regional justice hubs in Liberia. It needs to help galvanize action to support progress in the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States road map in Guinea-Bissau. And it needs to rapidly support the Guinean Government in taking forward security sector reform.

The second objective concerns advice. We want the Security Council to seek the advice of the PBC regularly and proactively. But for that to happen, the PBC, supported by the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), needs to generate high-quality analysis on a particular problem and advice on possible options to overcome it and on what role different actors might play.

The third focus concerns the capacity of the PBC itself and the need for countries to progress off its agenda. In the past six months, we have had the welcome addition of two countries onto the PBC's agenda, and there is a possibility that other high-profile countries may also seek referral. That will put an

additional burden on the PBSO and on Member States. We need to explore the steps for graduating a country off the PBC's agenda or shifting to some lighter form of engagement.

We also think that the PBC has an important role to play in championing the civilian capacity review. For example, the PBC could help to rally support internationally for specific recommendations in the review. We would also welcome the PBC's advice when we take this up in the Security Council later this year. We further think that the PBC would benefit from forging greater links with the new grouping of 17 fragile States, known as the g7+. That group provided useful insights under the Bosnian debate on institutional capacity-building. We should hear more from the group. The PBC could provide a platform for it here in New York.

In conclusion, when we meet to discuss the PBC's annual report this time next year, we should look to see whether these objectives — results, advice and managing the PBC's capacity to best effect — are being met. The United Kingdom reiterates its commitment to helping to support their delivery.

Mrs. Viotti (Brazil): I would like to start by thanking you, Mr. President, for convening this debate on the Peacebuilding Commission's (PBC) annual report (S/2011/41), which constitutes an opportunity for the Council to reflect on the important role that the Commission plays in the United Nations system. I also thank Ambassador Peter Wittig for his excellent leadership during his chairmanship of the PBC. My delegation pledges its full support to Ambassador Eugène-Richard Gasana and wishes him every success as the Commission's Chair for 2011.

The past year was marked by the five-year review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, which offered an opportunity for the Council to consider ways to perfect its work. The Commission is a relatively new body in the United Nations system, and the review allowed Council members to reflect both on the progress achieved so far and the challenges ahead. We once again thank the facilitators for their work and for the useful recommendations they presented.

In our view, there are three areas where the Council must continue to strengthen its work, namely, the integrated and multidimensional nature of peacebuilding, national ownership and partnerships with other relevant actors. As Brazil has already

underscored on different occasions, it is of the utmost importance that the PBC enhance its integrated approach. During the open debate held in February by the Brazilian presidency (see S/PV.6479), the Council emphasized that security and development were closely interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

In addition to pursuing security and stabilization tasks, we believe that it is essential that peacebuilding strategies also focus increasingly on economic and social policies aimed at improving the living standards of affected populations. Assisting national Governments to restore their capacity to fight poverty and strengthen institutions is another responsibility that the Council cannot avoid. To name but a few, greater attention must be given to the provision of basic services, such as health and education; youth employment, including through vocational training; economic revitalization; and the fight against poverty. It is also essential to strengthen the voice of women. As we know, women are key actors in the economy, especially in agriculture, and can play a leading role in the prevention of conflicts.

Those dimensions are clearly interrelated. Tangible progress in economic and social issues will have a positive impact on the security situation. In Guinea-Bissau, for example, the improved economic situation in the country and the debt relief provided under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative opened the way to mobilizing more resources for institution-building, social services and security sector reform.

As for national ownership, there is no doubt that the actions that we undertake must be steered by the interests and needs of the affected country. A fluid dialogue with national Governments and support for political processes that can help local actors to forge a vision of their priorities should therefore be guiding principles of our activities.

The assistance provided must be tailored to what national stakeholders consider as their fundamental interests, and should focus on the consolidation of national institutions. Institutions are indispensable to enhancing national ownership and allowing for stronger public administration. As Deputy Prime Minister of Timor-Leste José Luís Guterres highlighted before the Council in January (see S/PV.6472), international partners must help to build national institutions by working within them, since "one cannot

build a nation upon the principles of another" (S/PV.6472, p. 6).

Partnerships with different actors — and this brings me to my third point — is also instrumental to the success of any peacebuilding initiative. Reaching out to the international financial institutions and to regional and subregional organizations, such as the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States, should be continuously pursued. One of the areas in which partnerships can produce tangible results is the deployment of civilian capacities. As the recent report of the Secretary-General on this issue underscores, it is essential to protect and nurture local capacities, including through flexible arrangements and South-South cooperation.

My delegation echoes the call by Ambassador Peter Wittig for enhanced interaction between the Commission and the Council. We believe that the Security Council should resort more often to the advice of the PBC when discussing the mandates of missions in countries on the Commission's agenda. In February, during the Brazilian presidency, an interactive dialogue on the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi was held, with the presence of the Chair of the country-specific configuration, Ambassador Paul Seger. We hope that such initiatives will continue.

As Chair of the Guinea-Bissau country-specific configuration, Brazil has endeavoured to help that country to reach long-lasting peace and development. The activities described in the annual report are just a snapshot of what the country-specific configuration has done in critical areas such as security sector reform, advocacy before international financial institutions, resource mobilization and economic revitalization.

We are committed to continue to work in all of those areas in order to make the PBC increasingly meaningful and effective on the ground.

Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri (India): Peacebuilding and peacekeeping-peacebuilding are and will remain core activities of the Council in the immediate future. Let me therefore begin by thanking you, Mr. President, for organizing this meeting today on post-conflict peacebuilding. The results of such initiatives will play a key role in determining the relevance and effectiveness of the Council and of the larger United Nations system in the decades to come.

Let me also thank the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) for its detailed and insightful report (S/2011/41), as well as Ambassador Peter Wittig, under whose able stewardship the report was prepared and who has presented it to us today. I also thank Ambassador Gasana for his statement.

The Peacebuilding Commission, through its Organizational Committee and country-specific configurations, has a central position in the global peacebuilding architecture. The working relationship of the Commission, the newest organ of the United Nations, with the Security Council and the General Assembly is thus of critical importance.

My delegation has been a member of the Commission since its inception. We favour close, regular and substantive interaction among the Commission, the Council and the Assembly so that the United Nations can deliver as one when it comes to setting the peacebuilding agenda.

Peacebuilding is a cooperative effort. The United Nations requires working with other peacebuilding actors, including international financial institutions. My delegation has noted the growing focus on the special characteristics of post-conflict situations involving an increasing number of development and economic actors. That, we expect, will have a positive impact on peacebuilding and on the growing need for resources for peacebuilding initiatives.

In an arena with many players, however, the United Nations must be conscious of the need to maintain the high ground in developing the normative basis for peacebuilding. An international effort is under way to understand the linkages between development, peace and security and to suggest solutions. The Council itself debated this issue six weeks ago under the Brazilian presidency. We must ensure that this effort is able to resist the temptation to create a new peacebuilding orthodoxy. Many of these efforts end up talking down rather than listening. That must be avoided at all costs.

My delegation stresses that the United Nations must play the central role in identifying a common peacebuilding vision, in bringing together the various actors and in acting as a bridge between national authorities and various peacebuilding and development actors.

Some of these issues were addressed by the Working Group on Lessons Learned — an effort with which we have been associated. We believe that its conclusions — *inter alia* in relation to the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in marshalling resources, on the imperative of national dialogue in post-conflict situations and the role of young people — are particularly relevant to the further evolution of peacebuilding.

Peacebuilding emerged from peacekeeping. The United Nations has made enormous investments of manpower and resources in multidimensional peacekeeping operations mandated to operate in fragile States. We are now in the midst of another paradigmatic shift into peacekeeping/peacebuilding operations or purely peacebuilding operations.

India brings to the table the experience of almost 60 years of peacekeeping. We have contributed more peacekeepers to more peacekeeping operations than any other country. We have also participated in every type of peacekeeping operation, from truce supervision to the current generation of purely peacebuilding initiatives.

Based on this experience, my delegation stresses that peacekeeping is early peacebuilding. Our peacekeepers in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, the United Nations Operation in Somalia II, the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, the United Nations Mission in Liberia and the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti have been early peacebuilders. We believe that the process of implementing a peace agreement must run side by side with the provision of humanitarian and emergency assistance; with the creation of political institutions that can resolve conflicts, reconcile parties to conflicts and allow dialogue between the State and the governed; with security sector reform; with administrative and economic restructuring; and with empowering the weak, building a human rights culture and resuming economic activity.

National ownership is the key determinant of success in peacebuilding. The international community can encourage, motivate and facilitate. It cannot solve those problems which require national will and national ownership.

We believe, however, that the international community has the duty to make available appropriate capacities to national authorities. The solutions and capacities that these authorities seek are those that have been tried and tested in similar environments elsewhere. Countries like India have successfully surmounted many of the challenges that have produced these conflicts. The shared colonial legacy that produced these challenges and our experience and that of other nations which have faced similar difficulties has particular relevance to the problem at hand. The success of the all-female Indian formed police unit in Liberia is a good example of how the capacities and experience of the global South can be leveraged in peacebuilding situations.

It is also the responsibility of the international community to provide the resources. Complex peacekeeping operations usually have a lifespan that is measured in years. Peacebuilding operations will last for decades and require a predictable and appropriate level of resources over extended periods of time.

India strongly supports the role and relevance of regional players in post-conflict scenarios. We are greatly encouraged by the African Union's efforts to develop post-conflict reconstruction capacities. The success of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the African Peer Review Mechanism has many lessons that are relevant to the strengthening of national ownership.

The Secretariat and the funds and programmes must do a great deal more to become effective players. Skill sets and expertise that are relevant to these societies need to be augmented. In an earlier debate, I spoke about the ponderous nature of the United Nations bureaucracy and pointed out that an organization that takes up to 200 days to fill positions in the field can hardly be a model worthy of emulation when it comes to institution-building.

In concluding, I would like to point out that India has engaged bilaterally with a number of nations on the peacekeeping/peacebuilding agenda in response to national requirements. We also have contributed, along with my fellow delegations of Brazil and South Africa, through plurilateral mechanisms, such as the India, Brazil and South Africa Trilateral initiative, that are active in peacebuilding. We are committed to this process and will continue to remain fully engaged.

Mr. Pankin (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): We are grateful to the Permanent Representative of Germany and the Chairs of the country configurations of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), the Permanent Representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Jordan, Luxembourg and Sweden, for preparing the report on the work of the fourth session of the Peacebuilding Commission (S/2011/41). We thank the Permanent Representatives of Germany and Rwanda, the former and current Chairs of the PBC, for presenting their reports and their vision of the roles of the PBC.

We welcome the outcomes of the already fourth year of the work of the PBC. This period has been of particular importance to the peacebuilding architecture of the United Nations. The first five-year review of the PBC's activities was a success. Its outcome should contribute to further enhancing the effectiveness of the Commission in coordinating international peacebuilding efforts and in crafting recommendations on the rehabilitation of States and the restoration of economic stability in countries that have emerged from the hot phases of crisis.

Thorough work has been done within the country configurations. One of the great merits of the PBC is its ability to establish a direct dialogue with national Governments and to ensure their leading role and responsibilities for the peacebuilding process. We also see evidence of the growing credibility of the PBC in the recent addition to its agenda of two new countries, Liberia and Guinea.

In the broader peacebuilding context, we note the issuance of the report of the Secretary-General's Senior Advisory Group for the Review of International Civilian Capacities in the aftermath of conflict. We continue to explore the conclusions and proposals of that document. Our position is that the leading role in any consideration of its recommendations should be played by the General Assembly and its Fifth Committee. Furthermore, we believe that one key aspect of the system of international peacekeeping is the establishment of qualified staffing reserves consisting of national teams of civilian experts. The Russian Federation has already submitted to the Secretariat lists of national experts in various fields.

The Russian Federation views peacebuilding as an important tool for ensuring international peace and stability. It should be based on the principle of national

ownership in defining priorities and approaches to their implementation, as well as on building the institutional capacities of States that are recipients of international assistance. It is only national stakeholders that can ensure sustainable peaceful development.

A key component of post-conflict peacebuilding entails establishing and building national institutional capacity. That should become a system-wide priority for the entire United Nations in deeds, not just words. Achieving sustained peace and stability is only possible when the entirety of ownership lies with the national players.

The Russian Federation attaches great importance to the activities of the PBC as the unique advisory mechanism mandated to coordinate peacebuilding activities in the United Nations system and outside it, and for crafting peacebuilding strategies as well as mobilizing international cooperation for post-conflict reconstruction. At the same time, we suggest that the Commission could be more active in taking on the tasks of peacebuilding and socio-economic reform that are currently entrusted to peacekeeping operations.

We attach great importance to the Peacebuilding Fund as a mechanism for immediate financing that can contribute to long-term mechanisms for assistance in reconstruction and development. Our position is underscored by our annual contribution to the Fund, which totals \$2 million.

Mr. Moraes Cabral (Portugal): Thank you for organizing this important debate, Mr. President. I also wish to thank Ambassador Wittig for presenting his report and for his commitment and leadership while he was in charge of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). I also thank Ambassador Gasana for his statement and assure him of our constant support in his important task. I would also like to warmly greet Ambassador Viotti and the other Chairs of the country-specific configurations present here during our debate.

We welcome the progress of the PBC as reflected in its report (S/2011/41). Over the past five years, the Commission has established itself as a relevant platform for international assistance in the transition of post-conflict societies towards durable peace. We now have a more focused, thematic approach and a better understanding of priorities and of how the PBC fits into the larger set of international actors. We have, as well, the lessons learned from five country-specific configurations, which, we believe, is experience that

will certainly be valuable for the recently created configuration for the Republic of Guinea.

Portugal takes pride in its active participation in four PBC configurations, as we are strong supporters of an approach that takes into account the relationship between security and development and its implications for integrated action by the international community in post-conflict societies, which are particularly fragile ones. The PBC is in a unique position to ensure that socio-economic progress effectively functions as a promoter of stability. In the case of Guinea-Bissau, as already mentioned by Ambassador Maria Luiza Viotti, I would also like to underline the role of the PBC configuration in the process that led to the debt relief, resulting from Guinea-Bissau reaching the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries completion point of the International Monetary Fund. The debt relief, together with a recently approved new tranche of Peacebuilding Fund financial support, will create the conditions for the Government of Guinea-Bissau to press forward with social and economic programmes and enhance the strengthening of national institutions. In the context of political fragility, the PBC's role is certainly an important contribution to stability in that particular country, which faces, as we all know, a number of serious challenges.

Allow me now to focus on a number of challenges that in our view merit particular attention. First, there is a challenge for the visibility of the PBC in its capacity to coordinate with other actors present in the countries where it intervenes. There is no denying that the PBC is a catalyst for mobilizing donors' resources, identifying financing gaps and priorities for international assistance. But this should translate into actual work being carried out on the ground. Besides dealing with the regular planning and articulation of the national authorities, the PBC should be more systematically involved early on with other actors, first and foremost with the other United Nations agencies but also with bilateral partners, international financial institutions and regional organizations. We note with satisfaction that this issue is one of the main aspects of the PBC road map for actions in 2011.

Secondly, there is the challenge of greater engagement of the PBC in development issues. The report indicates a growing trend to include development aspects in priority plans, especially concerning the problem of youth unemployment, an issue with serious destabilizing potential, especially in

Africa. PBC engagement in this field, however, requires a more consistent dialogue with development agencies to promote a peacebuilding approach in their assistance efforts. There are also a number of other issues besides youth employment with great potential in terms of peace dividends and long-term stability. These include promoting economic activities, health and education, and gender equality, as well as the mitigation of the effects of climate change.

Finally, we should work towards strengthening relations between the PBC and other United Nations organs. On Monday the General Assembly held a very rich debate on this same report (see A/65/PV.79). I think we should value the Assembly's contribution in our reflections and efforts to strengthen peacebuilding.

In what concerns the Security Council, the report, as well as other reports and documents produced in each of the country-specific configurations, contains much valuable information on how the work of the PBC can feed into Security Council discussions, namely, those on the establishment, renewal and conclusion of mission mandates. We should work collectively to improve our working methods in order to allow us to draw regularly on the advice of Chairs of country-specific configurations. The interactive dialogue on Burundi, with the participation of the Chair of the PBC country-specific configuration, promoted by the Brazilian presidency of the Security Council last month, was an excellent practice. We should be able to develop other formats that would serve the same purpose of further engagement of the PBC with the Council.

In conclusion, the success of the PBC in fulfilling its task represents our collective success in our efforts towards achieving sustainable peace. We are aware of the challenges before us in improving our capacity to deal with peacebuilding tasks. Let us also be creative in reaching out and devising appropriate ways to address those challenges.

Mr. Messone (Gabon) (*spoke in French*): My delegation thanks you, Mr. President, for this opportunity to debate the report (S/2011/41) on the review of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) for the period between 1 July 2009 and 31 December 2010. We also thank Ambassador Peter Wittig for his excellent presentation of the report and for the skill with which he has discharged his duties as Chair of the Commission. We would also like to convey to his

successor, Ambassador Gasana, our best wishes for success in his new post, and to assure him of our support.

With regard to the ever more important role of the Peacebuilding Commission in the post-conflict peacebuilding process, my delegation welcomes the commitment that has been expressed here on the part of the international community for strengthening the capacity and resources of the Commission so as to enable it to act more effectively on the ground. It is in that context that we welcome the work done by the co-facilitators — the Permanent Representatives of Ireland, Mexico and South Africa — in reviewing the United Nations peacebuilding architecture with the goal of making it more operational. We welcome the fact that the recommendations made as a result of their consultations have already begun to be applied by the Commission, as the report under discussion attests.

It seems to us that there are two particularly important aspects associated with our desire to strengthen the peacebuilding architecture, namely, the partnerships that the Commission has to forge with the various actors involved in the peacebuilding process and the central role that the host country must play in that process. With regard to the first point, my delegation welcomes the approach taken by the Commission in relation to international financial institutions and donors, for some efforts require a stronger international commitment and more resources and, without prejudice to the issue of the most effective strategies, it is important to increase the resources of the Peacebuilding Fund and its main components.

Similarly, cooperation with regional and subregional organizations and, indeed, with all other actors involved in peacebuilding activities, is essential. That is why peacebuilding should be a focal point of the dialogues held periodically by the United Nations with regional organizations. The Commission's ongoing cooperation with those entities is an essential factor in efforts to improve resource mobilization and, above all, to more effectively coordinate and harmonize actions on the ground. In that context, we support the Commission's relationship with the main organs of the United Nations, in particular the General Assembly, our Council and the Economic and Social Council.

In the Security Council, we recognize that the links between peacekeeping and peacebuilding are

growing and require the Commission to be more effective in fulfilling its advisory role vis-à-vis the conduct of peacekeeping missions. For instance, we support the Commission's recommendations to the Council regarding the situation in the Central African Republic. Those recommendations called for increased financial support for the stabilization of the country, for the Economic Community of Central African States to provide military observers for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes, and for the subregional military presence of the Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the Central African Republic.

Regarding the second point, my delegation believes it important to mention that peacebuilding cannot occur without the involvement of the recipient country. Indeed, national ownership and the strengthening of existing capacities are the two main pillars of the recovery process for countries emerging from conflict.

The Central African Republic configuration, of which my country, Gabon, is a member, can once again serve as a good example. Indeed, the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding and the poverty reduction strategy paper were created by the Central African Government, in partnership with the Commission. In that context, we suggest that the Council consider the Commission's potential role in the Sudan in terms of post-referendum issues.

National or local ownership, a key component of the strategy adopted by the Commission, should transcend the governmental sphere. All segments of the population should therefore be involved in programmes launched as part of the peacebuilding process. The issues of youth unemployment, the reintegration of ex-combatants and the situation of such vulnerable groups as women and girls must be accorded the highest priority. Attention should also be paid to the issue of political governance in the actions of the Commission, because it is a factor that could play a role in any return to conflict. That was the intent behind the 2009 review of the Peacebuilding Fund's guiding principles, which was undertaken to ensure that the Fund would be able to respond to real needs. Greater account must also be taken of existing national capacities in peacebuilding activities.

As the international community is not usually called upon to remain indefinitely in a country

emerging from conflict, it would be useful in the future for such countries to work with the countries concerned to formulate a priority action plan to establish sustainable peace. The action plan should include security sector reform, socio-economic development, youth employment, national reconciliation, good governance and the rule of law. The Commission's activities should create no local dependency that would make it difficult for the international community to leave.

I would like to highlight the challenges and issues that should be further discussed in terms of the role of the Commission. One is how to coordinate the various actors involved in such a way as to not complicate the conduct of operations, and how to reconcile the approaches and *modus operandi* of the various actors. Another is how to better take into account the specificities of each situation. A further issue is how to ensure participation at the national level so that ownership is not limited solely to the elites.

Finally, I reiterate our support for the Peacebuilding Commission, which is playing an increasingly important role in the international community's efforts to help countries devastated by conflict to regain their footing.

Mr. Barbalčić (Bosnia and Herzegovina): I, too, should like to thank Ambassadors Wittig and Gasana for their comprehensive briefings.

At the outset, I would like to underline that fact that Bosnia and Herzegovina considers the Peacebuilding Commission to be one of the most important components of the security architecture of the United Nations. Over the past few months, several important debates and initiatives have been undertaken with the aim of enhancing the coherence and effectiveness of United Nations engagement in peacebuilding activities. Consequently, the evolving nature of the Peacebuilding Commission has continued to focus the attention of the international community on the countries on its agenda.

We further believe that, in order to improve the Commission's impact on the ground, a common vision for engagement in a given country is essential. It is equally important to build and strengthen partnerships with key peacebuilding actors, international financial institutions and regional and subregional institutions. In that process, the focus should be on building upon existing national strategies and priorities so as to

reinforce national ownership and capacity. Another important issue is identifying critical funding and policy gaps and leveraging the resources of multilateral and bilateral donors to address those gaps in a timely, flexible and predictable manner. The division of roles and responsibilities is necessary to bridge short-term activities in the aftermath of conflict and long-term visions that lead to sustainable peace and development.

In that regard, measuring the impact of peacebuilding activities in the field is crucial. Reviews of the Strategic Frameworks for Peacebuilding and efforts to harmonize them with the views expressed in the poverty reduction strategy papers can be important activities leading to better planning and greater delivery of results on the ground.

We are also of the view that greater synergy is needed between the Commission's country configurations and the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding in order to ensure that collective efforts are coherent and mutually reinforcing. In particular, that process involves reinforcing shared accountability between the countries concerned and international partners, strengthening coherent planning for peacebuilding strategies, financing for peacebuilding and leveraging capacities and expertise. We emphasize that planning for peacebuilding must not be a supply-driven process. On the contrary, it has to be focused and centred on the needs of the host country.

We consider that the cooperation between the Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) needs to be maximized through enhanced consultations and dialogue in order to provide sustained support for the countries on the Commission's agenda and to align the Commission's engagement with the plans of the Fund.

With regard to country configurations, the Commission has continued to increase its engagement by supporting the electoral process in Burundi and activities related to the peacebuilding elements of the Agenda for Change of the Government of Sierra Leone, including good governance, the rule of law and youth employment. We welcome the efforts of the Commission that fostered integration of the political mandate of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone with the development mandates of the United Nations agencies, making the Agenda a central peace and development framework for the international community.

We are of the view that engagement in Guinea-Bissau will help in building democratic governance and effectively addressing the key challenges facing the country, including enhancing the civilian institutions of the security sector. As for the Central African Republic, it will boost support for peacebuilding priorities identified by the Commission, the Government and civil society.

The constructive work of the Commission contributed to adding two new members to the Commission's agenda, Liberia and Guinea-Bissau. We believe that a new instrument of engagement, the statement of mutual commitment, will contribute to better identifying the main risks and challenges facing the peacebuilding process and therefore expedite the engagement process. However, enhancing national ownership and building national capacities will lay the foundations for economic growth, peace consolidation and sustainable development.

Bosnia and Herzegovina welcomes the practice of inviting the Chairs of the country configurations to brief the Council. This is important not only for the Commission's role in highlighting the correlation between security and development, but also for confirming the Commission's tangible results in a specific country.

In light of the PBC 2010 review, it is necessary to develop a practical mechanism to track progress in the work of the Commission with regard to creating a single planning document for a specific country, intensifying resource mobilization efforts, development aspects of peacebuilding or activities with the PBF.

Finally, while we emphasize that much has been achieved in the past, we believe that the Commission should perform better analysis, provide important advice to the principal organs of the United Nations, and improve its working methods and the linkage between work at Headquarters and in the field in order to achieve better results. Bosnia and Herzegovina remains fully committed to supporting its work.

Mr. Briens (France) (*spoke in French*): I thank Ambassador Wittig for his excellent work as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) in 2010 and Ambassador Gasana for the vigour with which he has taken over the role.

Today we welcome with satisfaction the report of the Peacebuilding Commission (S/2011/41). The year

2010 was important for the Commission, which saw its policies come of age and its objectives better defined. We are pleased to note the interest the Commission attracts. This year saw the development of an ambitious reform project led by the Ambassadors of Ireland, Mexico and South Africa. We wish to reiterate our support for the implementation of the recommendations of the report, and in particular the 2011 road map drawn up under Germany's leadership. We encourage the new chairmanship to examine possibilities for the Commission to establish new partnerships with financial institutions, in particular the African Development Bank.

The appeal of the PBC was confirmed by the addition to its agenda of Liberia in September 2010 and Guinea in February 2011. We recall our commitment to those countries and strongly encourage them to stay the course towards peace and democracy.

Despite these positive developments, we must keep in mind that the recommendations of the co-facilitators' report have not yet taken effect and that the PBC has yet to find its place in the United Nations system. The Commission is still too often considered by States emerging from conflict as an additional donor. However, the true added value of the PBC lies in its political support and advocacy functions. I stress that the PBC is first and foremost a political platform. In this context, if the PBC is to be able to keep international attention focused on countries emerging from conflict, host countries should be prepared to make real commitments, because peacebuilding does not end with the successful holding of democratic elections.

The six countries on the Commission's agenda have thus had to step up their efforts, with the support of the country-specific configurations of the PBC. For host countries, being placed on the agenda is the beginning of a long process that can be concluded only by the national authorities. National ownership, which is often highlighted, needs to be embodied in the ambitious implementation of programmes promoting good governance, anti-corruption efforts, security sector reform, the rule of law and national reconciliation.

Let me take this opportunity to commend the report of Jean-Marie Guéhenno on civilian capacity development (S/2011/85). The report is an important step, which we wish to support. Many of its proposals

could be implemented immediately, and we encourage the Secretariat to be ambitious in implementing it. Some of the recommendations, however, will have to be validated by all of the States of the international community. It will therefore be important to build consensus that goes beyond the traditional rifts.

The Peacebuilding Commission is the most representative and legitimate body of the United Nations for promoting national civilian capacity-building, triangular cooperation — among international organizations, donor countries and host countries — and South-South cooperation. In this respect, we believe that the Organizational Committee of the Commission should consider adding the evaluation of that recent, innovative report to its agenda in the near future.

Mr. Dunn (United States of America): I thank Ambassador Wittig for his briefing and his commitment to peacebuilding and the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). I also wish to thank Ambassador Gasana for his leadership this year, as well as the Chairs of the Peacebuilding Commission's country-specific configurations, who facilitate the PBC's work in the field and in New York. The United States continues to support the Commission wholeheartedly.

Promoting sustainable peace is at the heart of the United Nations work. The Peacebuilding Commission continues to gain strength as an institution. It plays a crucial role in several important ways, calling our attention to countries emerging from conflict, offering advice, and proposing strategies to build sustainable peace after the guns have fallen silent. We commend the Commission for its efforts to address many of the shortcomings identified in last year's annual review, and we appreciate the progress it has made this year, in particular in the countries on its agenda.

We commend the Commission's efforts to alleviate the administrative burden on those it hopes to help by drawing more from existing strategic planning processes and documents. We saw this in Sierra Leone, where the Commission aligned its engagement with the Government's agenda for change and leveraged the expertise and experience of international actors and regional bodies to tackle poor governance, youth unemployment and widespread drug trafficking. We saw it again in the Central African Republic, where the Commission tailored its strategic framework to correspond to the country's poverty reduction strategy.

We saw it in Burundi, where the Commission worked with international stakeholders to ensure free and fair elections and where the Commission's work to support political dialogue among the ruling party and opposition elements has proven particularly important as Burundi has solidified its peace.

We also applaud the Commission's quick start in Liberia. Liberia was added to the PBC's agenda within six months of that country's request, and an innovative statement of mutual commitment was endorsed by the Commission and Liberia's Government. Liberia has already, with the PBC's help, begun construction on the first of five regional security hubs to address the root causes of conflict at the community level and help transfer security management from the United Nations peacekeeping mission to the Government of Liberia in the coming years.

We also appreciate the efforts of the Working Group on Lessons Learned, which shares and disseminates information and success stories on high-priority areas on the Peacebuilding Commission's agenda. We urge the Working Group to continue to foster meaningful dialogue and to link its discussions and findings more directly to programmes in the field. Such ties are essential if the valuable lessons put forth by the Working Group are to be incorporated into the Commission's ongoing work.

Despite considerable progress, the Commission still faces real challenges. In order to better serve as the leading authority on peacebuilding, the Commission must work harder to link ambitions in New York with programmes and national leadership in the field. It must also improve coordination with international institutions on needs assessments and programmes in post-conflict countries. The PBC should continue to promote national ownership by focusing early on developing national capacities and measuring the impact that peacebuilding has in the field.

We also believe that the Commission should work more closely with its key partners, in particular the international financial institutions. This will allow the Commission to build on the experience and knowledge of partner institutions and work towards common goals to create sustainable peace. We must also work to achieve a coherent vision and to coordinate efforts across all players in countries with a United Nations peacebuilding presence. A key aspect of achieving this vision is working closely with leadership within

countries emerging from conflict. As the Commission continues to grow and add more countries to its agenda, it is even more critical that it possess the peacebuilding capacities to advance international peace and security and improve the prospects for success in post-conflict countries.

The time is now, as more countries are turning to the United Nations for resources and assistance in dealing with conflict. The Commission must continue to build on the progress it has made to help the countries on its agenda build peace that will truly endure.

Mr. Mashabane (South Africa): We thank you, Mr. President, for organizing this meeting on the report (S/2011/41) of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). We wish to express our sincere gratitude to the former Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, Ambassador Wittig, for his leadership of the Commission during the past year. We also thank the Chairs of the five country-specific configurations for Burundi, Sierra Leone, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Liberia, for their dedication and hard work. We thank the Peacebuilding Support Office for its invaluable support to the PBC.

South Africa looks forward to the leadership of the new Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, Ambassador Gasana, the Permanent Representative of Rwanda. My delegation stands ready to contribute concretely to peacebuilding activities through our membership in the sixth country-specific configuration.

The Peacebuilding Commission has made a considerable contribution to United Nations peacebuilding efforts since it was established. The recent addition of Liberia and Guinea to the Commission's agenda is another indication of the significance of the work of the Commission. However, more still needs to be done if we are to achieve the objective of preventing the relapse of countries into conflict and building durable peace.

We welcome the support provided by the international community to the Commission through the PBC country-specific configurations. The five countries currently on the PBC's agenda have received assistance in various ways, including through the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and other programmes. The Commission played a critical role in Burundi and in the Central African Republic by providing support for the election processes and mobilizing financial resources to bridge the funding gap in the electoral budgets. That

contribution of the Commission went a long way towards ensuring that the two countries held successful elections.

The Commission's interaction with the Security Council has improved. However, there is still scope for further improvement. We still believe that the PBC has a crucial role to play in advising the Security Council on peacebuilding elements that could be integrated into peacebuilding mandates. We are certain that such advice is important to enhancing the Council's peacebuilding efforts.

We encourage the Commission to continue to strengthen its relationship with other bodies of the United Nations, in particular the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. We appreciate the Commission's efforts to build collaboration and partnership with a wide range of stakeholders through outreach activities. South Africa believes that the Peacebuilding Commission could improve its reporting by also focusing and reflecting more on the following five areas.

First, it should focus on better coordination of peacebuilding initiatives among the stakeholders. Secondly, greater consideration should be given to the visibility of women and civil society in peacebuilding, including in providing leadership on socio-economic development issues. Thirdly, the report should focus on further enhancing cooperation and information-sharing. For example, lessons learned should be shared among the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Development Programme. Fourthly, the role of regional authorities and stakeholders in peacebuilding processes should be emphasized. In this context, local ownership and prioritization become important, and more could be done jointly in consultation with the authorities in countries emerging from conflict. Fifthly, the report should also elaborate on the Commission's activities in partnership with the international financial institutions. That partnership is certainly important in light of the nexus between peace and security.

The Peacebuilding Fund has provided critical assistance to countries emerging from conflict. South Africa encourages greater interaction and collaboration between the PBC and the PBF in ascertaining how countries emerging from conflict can be assisted financially in accordance with their priorities and

national vision. It is important that the existing complementarities between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund be sustained and maintained. South Africa believes that the Peacebuilding Support Office, in partnership with the broader United Nations system, adds enormous value to peacebuilding efforts.

In conclusion, it is our sincere hope that the recommendations of the 2010 review of the peacebuilding process will add value to the work of the Commission by enhancing and improving coherence, coordination and collaboration, including by enhancing the relationships among the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and other partners.

Mr. Osorio (Colombia) (*spoke in Spanish*): I would like to express my appreciation to Ambassador Wittig, the former Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, for his briefing and for the report of the Peacebuilding Commission (S/2011/41). His work at the helm of the Commission is worthy of praise and recognition. I would also like to thank Ambassador Gasana, the current Chair, and to wish him the greatest success.

The activities of the Peacebuilding Commission during this past year and a half show the important progress it has made in fulfilling its mandate and the need to take comprehensive steps to implement the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council regarding the recommendations that emerged from the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture.

The various actors involved in peacebuilding highlight the ongoing need to identify areas for joint work, cooperation and coordination so as to avoid duplication of efforts, enhance synergies and make the best possible use of available resources. In that respect, we underscore the leadership role played by the Commission in making maximum use of the capacities available in the United Nations, the international financial institutions and the donor community, and in forming partnerships and improving coordination with the entities participating in those initiatives. We therefore place a high value on cooperation between the Commission and regional organizations and international financial institutions, especially the African Union, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

With the recent addition of Liberia and Guinea-Bissau to the Commission's agenda, the pressing need for national ownership is clearer than ever, given that the role of the international community is to help create a national process based on the needs identified by the particular country. An important step forward in the implementation of that principle came with the statement of mutual commitment in Liberia. We encourage the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to focus its activities on such initiatives.

A central aspect of the review of the work of the Peacebuilding Commission was its institutional relationship with the main organs of the United Nations, especially the Security Council. Within the Council, there should be increased efforts to seek the participation of the configuration Chairs in those meetings at which we consider the peacebuilding status in the respective countries so as to coordinate the work of United Nations agencies on the ground, improve planning and clearly establish actions to be undertaken for early peacebuilding components of peacekeeping operations.

We welcome the Commission's intention to submit more analytical reports, addressing matters such as the use and fostering of national capacities and the sustainability of resources. The assessment of these and other matters should be undertaken in cross-cutting manner by the configurations so as to promote evaluation of the activities within the jurisdictions delineated in their mandates.

Lastly, allow me to underscore the need to increase our political, economic and technical commitment to the Commission. It is only with determined support that we will be able to develop the Commission's full potential and grant it its proper role in preventing relapses into conflict.

Mrs. Ogwu (Nigeria): My delegation thanks you, Mr. President, for convening this meeting on the annual report of the Peacebuilding Commission (S/2011/41). I would like to add my voice to those of my colleagues who have extended their appreciation to Ambassador Peter Wittig for his briefing and especially for his remarkable contribution in his former role as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). I also want to thank Ambassador Gasana, the current Chair, for his insights. We want to assure him of our unalloyed support in his new responsibilities.

Over the past year, we have been afforded numerous opportunities to better understand how the work of the Security Council interfaces with peacebuilding goals. This Council has been enriched by its acknowledgement of how, in achieving security ends, we can contribute to the fulfilment of long-term development through peacebuilding activities. The recent Council debates on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict and women's participation in peacebuilding, institution-building and the interdependence of security and development have all been excellent opportunities for the Council to develop a keener appreciation of the part that we play in the peacebuilding agenda. Indeed, all of these debates have attested to the value of peacebuilding as a tool for preventive diplomacy.

The review of international civilian capacities and the five-year review of the peacebuilding architecture dovetail neatly with the conclusions in the annual report of the PBC. What Nigeria takes from these three work streams is the overarching and critical importance of cooperation. It is clear from the work of all the configurations of the Commission that their goals cannot be achieved in isolation without the participation of other key actors, including national Governments, regional organizations, international financial institutions, other United Nations agencies, bodies and funds, and civil society.

Liberia is proving to be an excellent case for cooperation and innovation. With the adoption of the statement of mutual commitment, the Government of Liberia is firmly in the driving seat in terms of identifying priorities and ensuring that service delivery is demand-driven. Such cooperative efforts, which emphasize national ownership, attest to the commitment of the Liberia configuration and to the vision of the Commission itself.

The cooperation of regional organizations remains an essential element of the peacebuilding toolkit, and one that we must encourage in this Council. We welcome, for example, the partnership of the African Union (AU), among others, in closing the funding gap for Burundi's 2010 elections. In addition, we believe that the March 2010 meeting on partnership for peacebuilding, which was attended by representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Union, the AU and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, was an important forum for exploring and advocating for

stronger, more enduring partnerships to build and sustain peace in fragile or conflict-sensitive societies.

If we are able to identify more effective ways of mobilizing resources for Africa's peacebuilding initiatives, and to identify the appropriate peacebuilding priorities, countries emerging from conflict will no doubt be better served by the United Nations system. In this vein, Nigeria fully supports the annual joint meeting of the PBC and the AU Peace and Security Council, which follows the annual consultative meeting of members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council. We believe that these meetings can help to bridge the gaps inherent in addressing the nexus between peacekeeping and peacebuilding and, indeed, the broader relationship between security and development in Africa.

The Working Group on Lessons Learned has rightly drawn from national experiences to highlight the centrality of development aspects of peacebuilding. Reducing youth unemployment, developing income-generating activities, debt relief, skills training and promoting women's employment and economic empowerment are essential strategies for laying a solid economic foundation for peace and stability. It is with this in mind that Nigeria approved 0.7 million units of account in debt relief under the Nigeria Trust Fund for Burundi and Togo.

Despite the significant gains in peacebuilding in this reporting period, many challenges evidently remain in nations such as Guinea-Bissau — as Ambassador Viotti will attest — and the Central African Republic. In Guinea-Bissau, we look forward to the outcome of the planned joint mission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries. We truly believe that Guinea-Bissau can and will overcome its security sector reform challenges so that the country can benefit from the gains achieved by the PBC, ECOWAS and other actors in pursuit of democratic governance.

We accept that there are serious challenges to be addressed in the Central African Republic in the era following the drawdown of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad. Specifically, the configuration must prioritize its support to the Government's efforts in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and in institutional capacity-building. While these challenges are no doubt daunting, we

stress that they can be overcome through concerted and collective action. We firmly believe that the PBC is best placed to bring together the efforts of all stakeholders in order to devise appropriate strategies to assist post-conflict countries.

The PBC, as we have all acknowledged, has already shown us its effectiveness in harnessing the strengths of multiple development and security actors. The PBC can marshal and has marshaled the resources, the know-how and the political will of the international community in a way that anchors the Security Council's quest for lasting peace. We therefore lend our full support and commitment to its efforts and trust that we will soon maximize the PBC's potential and, ultimately, fulfil the basic objectives for which it was established.

Ms. Ziade (Lebanon): I thank you, Sir, for having organized this meeting. I would also like to thank Ambassador Wittig for ably chairing the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) in 2010 and to extend to the current PBC Chairperson, Ambassador Gasana, my sincere wishes for success in his endeavours.

Tangible results have been achieved through the PBC's engagement in country-specific situations. From the supportive role it played during the elections in Burundi to the economic revitalization it helped foster in Sierra Leone, the PBC has proved its added value as the main platform for peacebuilding activities within the United Nations system. Furthermore, steady requests made by countries emerging from conflict for inclusion on the Commission's agenda reflect the level of expectation associated with it.

However, different levels of challenges remain in the countries on the Commission's agenda. The review of the peacebuilding architecture concluded this year created valuable momentum on which we could build to face those challenges in a comprehensive manner. In this regard, we are pleased to note that the Commission's report on its fourth session (S/2011/41) takes into account the recommendations emanating from the recently concluded review process. We also note with appreciation the progress made in response to a number of those recommendations. However, we need to redouble our efforts to meet the expectations generated by the review and its recommendations. In our view, sustained attention needs to be given to the progress achieved in the following vital areas.

First, the PBC must keep national ownership at the forefront of its activities by involving populations

as quickly and extensively as possible within their own governance architecture. Such engagement should be context-sensitive and orient different actors and partners towards re-establishing national capacities for governance and service delivery, according to the specific needs of the country concerned.

Secondly, it is essential to enhance synergy between the PBC and the Peacebuilding Fund in a way that ensures supply-driven funding that would support broader peacebuilding objectives. Mutual commitments between national stakeholders and their regional and international partners need to be coupled with mutual accountability.

Thirdly, it is also essential that all Organizational Committee members and senior United Nations leaders use their political weight and commitment to align actors around common peacebuilding objectives.

Fourthly, the Security Council should make better use of the advisory capacity of the PBC through a more proactive and dynamic linkage between the Commission and the Council, as has been stated and pointed out by Ambassador Wittig. In that regard, we encourage closer engagement by the Chairs of country configurations with the Council, which can benefit from their input and views during relevant country-specific discussions.

It is important at this stage to build on previous achievements in a way that the activities of the Commission acquire a cumulative nature. Therefore, we regard the road map of actions for 2011 as a living document. We look forward to the forthcoming progress report and to the practical approach to be developed by the PBC to track the progress made in the implementation of the PBC review's recommendations.

The evolution of the PBC in the coming years will greatly influence the shape and direction that peace and stability take in many post-conflict countries. Let us provide it with the necessary tools for the success of that undertaking.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I shall now make a statement in my capacity as the representative of China.

I thank Ambassador Wittig for presenting the annual report (S/2011/41) of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). I appreciate the effective activities carried out by the PBC under his leadership. I also welcome the statement delivered by Ambassador

Gasana, Chairman of the PBC. I should like to make four brief points.

First, the United Nations should formulate a comprehensive, coordinated and integrated strategy for conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. United Nations peacekeeping operations can contribute to the early stages of recovery, development and reconstruction. China supports the PBC playing a full role in helping post-conflict countries in the areas of peace, reconstruction, financing and coordinating international assistance. Peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations should both include an exit strategy to encourage post-conflict countries to stand on their own at an early date.

Secondly, the countries concerned bear the primary responsibility for peacebuilding. While formulating peacebuilding strategies, the PBC should respect the sovereignty and independence of the countries concerned. China believes that, in providing assistance to post-conflict countries, the international community should give priority to national capacity-building, youth employment and economic and social development.

Thirdly, the United Nations and the relevant international organizations should strengthen their cooperation in the area of peacebuilding and use their respective advantages. We support close cooperation between the PBC, the Security Council, other major organs of the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions, other international agencies and regional organizations. China welcomes the PBC's provision of useful advice to the Security Council.

Fourthly, China supports continued efforts to improve the working methods of the PBC. We hope that the Commission will continue to improve its efficiency and focus on results in the relevant activities on the ground in the countries concerned.

I now resume my functions as President of the Council.

There are no further speakers inscribed on my list. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.



Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6504th meeting

Thursday, 24 March 2011, 10 a.m.

New York

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Li Baodong	(China)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ms. Čolaković
	Brazil	Mrs. Dunlop
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Briens
	Gabon	Mr. MOUNGARA MOUSSOTSI
	Germany	Mr. Berger
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Lebanon	Mr. Assaf
	Nigeria	Mr. Amieyefori
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Dolgov
	South Africa	Mr. Mashabane
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mr. Dunn

Agenda

The situation in Sierra Leone

Sixth report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Integrated
Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL) (S/2011/119)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

11-27602 (E)



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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Sierra Leone

Sixth report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (S/2011/119)

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Sierra Leone to participate in this meeting.

On behalf of the Council, I extend a warm welcome to His Excellency Mr. Joseph Dauda, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Michael von der Schulenburg, Executive Representative of the Secretary-General and head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone, to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite His Excellency Mr. John McNee, Chairperson of the Sierra Leone country-specific configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission and Permanent Representative of Canada, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/119, containing the sixth report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone.

I now give the floor to Mr. von der Schulenburg.

Mr. Von der Schulenburg: I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to introduce the sixth report of the Secretary-General on Sierra Leone (S/2011/119).

This biannual review of Sierra Leone's progress towards peace and stability takes place at a time of dramatic political events that are unfolding in many countries of Northern Africa, adjacent regions and places closer to home, such as Côte d'Ivoire. Much of the attention of the international community, and

indeed of this Council, is now directed at finding urgent solutions to these political and security developments, which are bound to shape the future of the entire region.

Against this background, political developments in Sierra Leone may appear pale in comparison. However, I would like to argue that the events in Northern Africa and adjacent regions may make it even more important for the Security Council not to lose sight of Sierra Leone and to continue to give it the attention it deserves and still needs.

Sierra Leone, which was once a symbol of a failed State, is now gradually evolving into a model country for overcoming old divisions and developing into a peaceful, democratic and prosperous country. Success in Sierra Leone would create hope, and hope is possibly the best ingredient for finding political solutions for peace in other countries. That is why I believe that any success in Sierra Leone is also bound to have its own ripple effect on the search for peace in other countries. Sierra Leone is on track towards achieving these goals, but it is not yet out of the woods. It will therefore continue to require international attention and support.

In Sierra Leone, it was also disillusioned young people who initially rose up against years of successive authoritarian and unaccountable Governments, against the plunder of its natural resources, and against widespread corruption that benefited a small elite while much of the country slid into widespread poverty. It was mainly the young people who felt marginalized and protested against the continuous deterioration of social services, the lowering of educational standards and the lack of job opportunities. At the time, Sierra Leone was unable to solve its growing unrest, and the country submerged into 11 years of a brutal and devastating civil war.

It is now nine years since Sierra Leone's civil war ended. During this short time, Sierra Leone has made a truly remarkable post-conflict recovery. When my Sierra Leonean friends see the images from a number of other African and Middle Eastern countries, it ignites in them the tragic memories of the recent past, but at the same time there is also a sense of pride among them in what they achieved over time. I fully share that pride.

Sierra Leoneans now elect their Governments, not only at the central level but also at the district and

local levels. These elections take place regularly, and as in all other democratic processes they have led to the transfer of power from one elected Government to another, both at the central and the local levels. The conduct of these elections is not always without problems, but what is encouraging is that elections in Sierra Leone have become the norm.

Today, Sierra Leoneans live largely at peace with each other, there is discernible security throughout the country, and citizens as well as foreigners are all free to travel to any part of Sierra Leone without any fear or security threats. There are no longer any armed groups terrorizing the population, nor are there any former warlords with a political following in the country. Sierra Leone no longer has any political prisoners, and after years of brutalities there are no longer any manifestations of systematic human rights abuses in the country. Freedom of speech has given rise to an independent, diverse and at times highly critical media. Sierra Leone's freedom of association has resulted in the creation of vibrant and active political parties, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations and professional associations.

Above all, Sierra Leone remains a rare example of exceptional religious freedoms and tolerance. It is the diversity of Sierra Leone's society, in which modern State authorities cooperate with traditional leaderships, in which political parties interact with independent media, and in which Muslim and Christian communities work together closely with civil society organizations that drives the country's evolving democratic culture.

As we witness developments in Northern Africa and adjacent regions, we must realize that Sierra Leone's achievements are by no means automatic or self-evident. These achievements are even more remarkable when we consider that Sierra Leone had a less fortunate start as a new nation, that it is a much poorer country, and that its population is largely illiterate.

Despite all achievements in overcoming its civil war, Sierra Leone will remain fragile and vulnerable to sudden economic, social and political shocks, both from outside and from within the country. As Sierra Leone is one of the world's poorest countries, the capacity of the Government to absorb any adverse shock will continue to remain weak. For example, recent concerns over excessive budgetary expenditures,

although small by any standards, could suddenly turn into a sequence of incalculable political fallout.

In a country in which the large majority of its people live on less than \$2 per day and with a relatively small revenue base, even problems that should be manageable — such as hikes in international oil prices, increases in rice prices, the failure to pay salaries on time, unfinished public work programmes, and insufficient rains, combined with a large population of unemployed and disillusioned young people — could explode beyond control and threaten Sierra Leone's hard-won achievements.

Any past, present and future Government in Sierra Leone is therefore compelled to walk a very fine line between mounting needs and financial constraints; between the lure of a globalized economy and the aspirations of its local population; and between the demands on the Government to accelerate development, coupled with a lack of budgetary and human resources at its disposal. That is indeed the reason why I believe that Sierra Leone will continue to need strong international assistance, in particular development assistance.

Let me also reflect on the two critical issues that I had brought to the Council's attention during its review of Sierra Leone in September (see S/PV.6391). These are the exploitation of natural resources and the 2012 elections. At the end of my statement, I would also like to talk about progress that is being made in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security.

Although challenges remain, I am encouraged by the progress the Government has made on mining and the elections over the past six months. Since our last meeting, the President has repeatedly stressed in public and in private that he is determined to ensure that the exploitation of Sierra Leone's rich mineral and possibly hydrocarbon resources will be transparent and for the benefit all Sierra Leoneans. Recently, the President separated the previously combined Ministries for Political Affairs and Natural Resources and Mining, an important step that will allow the Government to deal with the all important issue of mineral exploration in a professional and politically more neutral manner. The President has kept his pledge and initiated a review of all old and new mining contracts to ensure their conformity with Sierra Leone's mining laws.

After initial difficulties, the Government has now renewed its commitment to fully implement the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative process in consultation with civil society and other stakeholders. The Government has agreed with the World Bank and United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) on a major technical assistance programme to improve its capacity to manage the exploitation of its mineral resources. Similarly, the Government has agreed with Norway and the United States on a comprehensive technical assistance programme to reform and strengthen its institutions dealing with oil and gas exploration and exploitation matters.

However, the possible transition of Sierra Leone into a major exporter of mineral and hydrocarbon resources could test the country's social cohesion and provoke greater social changes than previously envisaged. For Sierra Leone to succeed in that vital endeavour, much wider national consultations may be required in the future.

Considerable progress has also been made in preparing for the 2012 elections. In January, the Government and its development partners — mainly DFID, the European Union, Germany and Irish Aid — agreed to fund a large election support programme that will be jointly implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL). Recently, the United States agreed to a parallel but well-coordinated contribution for the 2012 elections. In addition to the more traditional support to electoral management bodies, the security services and the judiciary, the election support programme will for the first time include the introduction of modern biometric voter registration systems and support to the so-called non-State actors, aimed at ensuring an environment of political tolerance and non-violence in 2012.

Despite the progress made so far, the 2012 elections still face a number of important challenges. First, and probably most important, there has to be greater and more regular engagement between the National Electoral Commission and political parties, including the main opposition party, the Sierra Leone People's Party, over important electoral issues, such as voter registration, planned reforms of electoral legal frameworks, the planning for elections and so on. It is important that all sides agree on the rules of the game

as early as possible, to prevent misunderstanding and conflicts over the interpretation and implementation of the rules at a later stage.

Secondly, with the nomination of its new chairman and commissioners, the Political Party Registration Commission (PPRC) should now engage more forcefully in mediating among political parties and in implementing the political party, code of conduct.

Thirdly, strong political parties are the cornerstones in any functioning democracy. Together with the PPRC, we must find ways to strengthen them. Recent intra-party frictions within a major political party remain worrisome, and certainly not in the interest of the country's democratic process.

Fourthly, on the background of recent budgetary constraints, the Government must give early indication as to what it will be able to afford in supporting the 2012 elections. In particular, the electoral management bodies should critically review their stated requirements in order to bring them in line with available resources for 2012.

Fifthly, to ensure peaceful elections, Sierra Leone's security forces, and in particular its police force, will have to improve their skills in preventing the use of unnecessary force. In that context, the mobility of police units is paramount. I hope that Member States will be able to respond to a call by the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) for additional police vehicles.

Finally, Sierra Leone's civil society organizations engaged in the elections, in particular the National Election Watch umbrella organization, should be given the financial and technical resources necessary to fulfill their important roles in voter education and in monitoring voter registration and the electoral process in 2012.

As this is the tenth year of resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, allow me to say a few words about the role of women and gender equality in Sierra Leone. The empowerment of women and greater gender equality must be an integral part of peacebuilding processes. As democracy in Sierra Leone has matured, so have the chances for women. Indeed, it is now within reach to ensure women's greater say in political decision-making and to attain a 30 per cent quota of women representation in Parliament and other elective bodies by 2012.

In the economic and social fields, it will be above all women who benefit from the Government's free health care initiative. After the first year of operation, we can observe that maternal mortality rates have dropped dramatically in some parts of the country. Similar initiatives are being undertaken to increase the enrolment of girls in secondary education and to fight any kind of gender-based violence.

In line with our Joint Vision for Sierra Leone — the joint United Nations programme — UNIPSIL and the United Nations country team have developed a joint United Nations approach to peacebuilding and gender equality, which we will present at the PBC tomorrow. It will focus on five priority areas, namely, access to political decision-making, access to health, access to education, access to justice and protection against gender-based violence. To implement this joint approach, we will work closely with the Government, the political parties, the police, the judiciary, civil society organizations and religious and traditional leaders, as well as with traditional women's organizations, including so-called bondo societies. I believe that the progress that we can now achieve in empowering women will no doubt help to consolidate peace, development and social progress in Sierra Leone.

Before I conclude my statement, I would like to draw attention to the fact that we have quite a lot of support with us. Behind me here are members of civil society organizations from Sierra Leone, which I think is a great symbol of the diversity of society in the country. They include leaders from the women's wings of the political parties, who will tomorrow present to the PBC their plans for reaching the 30 per cent target for women's participation in decision-making. Also with me are two civil society goodwill ambassadors who help to build schools in Sierra Leone. I would like to congratulate them on the good work they are doing. And we have post-graduate students from Colombia University and New York University. Finally, I would like to say that I am accompanied by two of my colleagues from the United Nations country team, Ms. Mia Seppo from UNDP and Ms. Ratidzai Ndlovu from the United Nations Population Fund. We asked them here today to illustrate to the Council and the Peacebuilding Commission the unity and integration we have achieved in Sierra Leone, which will not only benefit the Council but, ultimately, the country itself.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Mr. Von der Schulenburg for his briefing.

I now give the floor to His Excellency Mr. John McNee.

Mr. McNee: It is a great pleasure to brief the Security Council in my capacity as Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). At the outset, I would like to commend the impressive work of the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General, and indeed of the entire United Nations country team, in support of Sierra Leone's progress and development. Mr. von der Schulenburg has given us a very clear and insightful briefing this morning.

Sierra Leone is entering another transition period. This phase, marked by a gradual shift in emphasis from late-stage peacebuilding towards longer-term economic development, will be largely defined by three processes, namely, the continued pursuit of the Agenda for Change, which is Sierra Leone's national strategy for peace consolidation and economic growth; the conduct of elections in 2012; and the steady realignment of international assistance behind development priorities. I would like to focus on each of those processes briefly and outline the PBC's anticipated activities during the next six months.

First, I would like to commend the tremendous strides that the Government and people of Sierra Leone have made since the conclusion of the conflict. The PBC is particularly pleased at the advances that have been made in three areas of focus, that is, good governance and the rule of law, youth employment and drug trafficking. However, in spite of that progress, each of those issues still represents a long-term risk to Sierra Leone's stability. Each will require concerted attention from the national Government and from international community. As such, I would like to reiterate the need for continued financial support.

The United Nations multi-donor trust fund established to fund the Joint Vision and to support the Agenda for Change remains nearly \$175 million short of its \$381 million objective. For its part, the PBC's Sierra Leone country configuration will be active with donors and other key partners to help address Sierra Leone's outstanding peacebuilding challenges. The configuration will also continue to seek innovative non-financial contributions to support the Agenda for

Change by facilitating South-South and North-South partnerships.

Secondly, Sierra Leone also faces a more immediate challenge in conducting successful national and local elections in 2012. It is essential that political conditions be established for free, fair and peaceful elections. That will require continued progress on implementing the agreements in the joint communiqué of April 2009, further strengthening the Political Party Registration Commission and providing the National Electoral Commission with the necessary support. It is especially important that the national institutions charged with overseeing the elections, and the major political parties, build a stronger relationship based on improved cooperation and mutual trust. Successful elections depend on the commitment of the parties that contest them to play by the rules and respect the results. The elections must be not only technically sound, but also widely accepted.

In that respect, the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone have played an invaluable role in facilitating open dialogue and building relevant national capacities. The PBC fully supports those efforts and will focus more directly on elections preparations in the coming year.

Should the necessary support be provided, there is every reason to be optimistic. Last December's peaceful by-election in Kono district demonstrates that collective efforts to avoid violence can yield powerful results. It is telling that the Sierra Leone police played a significant role in the successful by-election. Unfortunately, the police lack the capacity to perform a similar service throughout the country. We see that as an important gap. Continuing to build the capacity of the Sierra Leone police to serve as a neutral and effective force for stability is critical. The Sierra Leone configuration has reiterated its appeal to the international community to ensure that the police have the necessary resources at their disposal — particularly vehicles, parts and fuel — to respond to cases of election-related violence in a timely manner.

Thirdly, the PBC will continue to have an important role to play in the next two years as focus shifts further from peacebuilding to development. However, a number of risks will endure over the longer term. Sierra Leone's significant youth population expects progress and prosperity. Disappointment could

present a latent risk of political instability. In that respect, rising investment in natural resources offers promise for economic growth, but also poses a number of challenges, some of which the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General outlined this morning. That was a major topic of discussion during my most recent visit to Freetown. The international community, including the PBC, should be prepared to respond promptly to any requests for technical assistance or other forms of support.

Sierra Leone will also have to contend with threats from outside its borders. Sustainable economic development depends heavily on stability within the subregion and on access to the assistance necessary to weather any financial difficulties. Similarly, the flow of illicit drugs and other forms of trafficking remains a serious challenge, with the potential to encourage corruption, undermine democratic progress and create new socio-economic problems.

Those challenges demand continued support and a wider regional focus. The Sierra Leone configuration seeks to build stronger partnerships with relevant international institutions and regional actors to address those issues. It will also encourage closer collaboration between the four West African country configurations of the Peacebuilding Commission to facilitate the pooling of resources, the exchange of national approaches and the adoption of regional initiatives in order to address those shared challenges, particularly in the areas of illicit drug trafficking and youth unemployment. A recent regional seminar on youth unemployment, sponsored by the Austrian Government and the Peacebuilding Support Office, as well as the West African Coast Initiative, sponsored by the United Nations and the Economic Community of West African States, are two examples of the kinds of partnerships through which the PBC will support more effective action on transborder risks.

In conclusion, Sierra Leone rightly stands as a multilateral success story in peacebuilding. Yet the story is not quite finished. One of the important lessons learned over the past two decades is that peacebuilding requires constant and continued support. Faltering now would risk all that has been gained. I therefore strongly encourage all donors and partners to provide Sierra Leone with the support it needs to pursue its Agenda for Change, conduct successful elections and embark on long-term development. As always, the

Peacebuilding Commission stands ready to be a constructive partner through that transitional process.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Mr. McNee for his briefing.

I now give the floor to His Excellency Mr. Joseph Dauda, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone.

Mr. Dauda (Sierra Leone): Let me begin by congratulating you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of March. I also wish to extend a warm welcome to the representatives of the new members of the Council. I would also like to thank you, Sir, for convening this meeting on the situation in Sierra Leone, as well as for giving my delegation the opportunity to contribute to this debate.

On behalf of my delegation, I wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General for his detailed report (S/2011/119) on the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL). Among other things, the report highlights the important developments that have taken place in the country, the challenges to surmount and, of course, the activities of UNIPSIL during the period under review. I would also like to thank the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General for introducing the report.

In a similar vein, we appreciate the Council's sustained engagement and interest in Sierra Leone as we continue to work in partnership to ensure sustainable peace and development in the country. We are also grateful for the indomitable efforts of the Sierra Leone configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), through the tireless efforts of its Chairperson, Ambassador John McNee of Canada, to maintain the momentum. We also thank him for his progressive and innovative efforts and his instructive remarks in contributing to this debate.

We take note of, and acknowledge with satisfaction, the reference made in the report to some of the progress and achievements since September 2010 and the challenges that we still have to contend with. Those achievements are the product of the joint efforts of the Government and people of Sierra Leone and the United Nations, through the United Nations Joint Vision aligned with the Agenda for Change and development partners. To that end, I would like to

express my appreciation for the investment that has been made in successful peacebuilding efforts and to encourage the further consolidation of the gains made by continuing to stand by Sierra Leone as it deals comprehensively with the remaining challenges and invests and builds on the success already achieved.

His Excellency President Ernest Bai Koroma, in partnership with the international community, remains fully committed to consolidating peacebuilding and the sustainable economic development of Sierra Leone as mapped out in the Agenda for Change. Youth unemployment, corruption and illegal narcotics were the three risks identified in the Agenda for Change and endorsed by the Sierra Leone PBC configuration in its outcome document of September 2010.

As reflected in the report, we are making steady progress in the fight against corruption and, with the support of development partners and the United Nations, we have created the structures at the local and regional levels to stem drug trafficking and organized crime. In response to youth unemployment, which remains a significant challenge to the peace consolidation process, a new Ministry of Youth Employment and Sports has been established and a national Youth Commissioner and Board have been appointed to provide the policy framework and implementation that would pave way for the meaningful participation of young people in national development.

The Government is fully cognizant of the importance of some of the issues raised by the Secretary-General in the report regarding the implementation of the joint communiqué of 2 April 2009 and has, in that regard, with UNIPSIL's support, established the All Political Parties Youth Association and the All Political Parties Women's Association aimed at preventing political violence, fostering inter-party dialogue and, in the case of the Women's Association, further enhancing women's participation in politics. Here, I am happy to report that 14.5 per cent of political offices are now held by women, almost halfway to our target of 30 per cent. We also continue to make progress towards the education of the girl child and providing free health care to pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under the age of five.

The Government remains committed to the conduct of peaceful, free, fair and transparent elections in 2012, and we welcome the support of the United

Nations and development partners in passing what has come to be identified as a key test for the consolidation of peace and stability in Sierra Leone. The National Electoral Commission and the Political Parties Registration Commission enjoy the independence to deliver effectively on their constitutional mandates, free of interference. Additionally, structures, such as the former national broadcasting service, which was recently transformed into the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation, the Independent Media Commission and the Editors' Guild are also of added value.

President Ernest Bai Koroma recently made his Cabinet more inclusive by appointing ministers from across political and regional divides to further promote national unity and cohesion. He has equally been responsive to concerns regarding the mining sector by taking measures to improve the governance of the sector, ensure greater transparency and maximize benefits from the country's mineral resources. To that end, we have sought the support of development partners to build the capacity of the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources.

Despite all these efforts of the Government and the progress that has been made to date in addressing the many problems that led to the civil war, the sustained support of the international community and our development partners is required if we are to build on the gains made and to further consolidate peacebuilding in Sierra Leone, as well as to enhance the country's capacity to absorb shocks, be they economic, social or political. Support is still required in several areas, in particular youth unemployment; the provision of vehicles to the Sierra Leone Police to enhance their capability and visibility during and after the elections; drug trafficking; and the reparations process as recommended by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

On the socio-economic front, prevailing global economic and financial uncertainties are seriously undermining our efforts to turn the economy around as

quickly as we would wish. In the light of the severe impact of these uncertainties on our efforts and in support of the strides we have made in socio-economic development, we urge and support the appeal that urgent and appropriate attention be given to the delivery of pledges made at the most recent consultative conference on Sierra Leone, held in London.

His Excellency President Ernest Bai Koroma is committed to reducing aid dependency through partnership with the private sector, in particular in the mineral and agricultural sectors, and recognizes the importance of strengthening institutions that will drive the economy, leading to the ratification by Parliament of the Public Private Partnership Act of 2010, which aims at providing the legal framework for the private sector to design, build and administer major infrastructure development programmes with the intention of attracting more foreign investment.

In conclusion, we welcome recent developments in Guinea resulting in the conduct of peaceful, free and fair elections and the smooth transfer of power to an elected Government. This development will contribute to peace consolidation efforts in Sierra Leone. However, we see the situation in Côte d'Ivoire as a threat to subregional peace and security and we support subregional, regional and other international efforts to adequately address it before it escalates into a full-blown conflict that could undermine the stability of its neighbours, including Sierra Leone.

Once more, I wish to thank the United Nations, the Peacebuilding Commission and all development partners for their contributions to the peace we have achieved so far.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Minister Dauda for his statement.

There are no further speakers inscribed on my list. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.50 a.m.



Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6505th meeting

Thursday, 24 March 2011, 3 p.m.

New York

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Li Baodong	(China)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Mougara Moussotsi
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Lebanon	Mr. Salam
	Nigeria	Mr. Amieyeofori
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Mrs. DiCarlo

Agenda

The situation in Libya

Briefing by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1973 (2011)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.



The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Libya

Briefing by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1973 (2011)

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

At this meeting, the Security Council will hear a briefing by the Secretary-General, His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon, pursuant to paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1973 (2011).

I now give the floor to the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General: I appreciate this opportunity to brief the Security Council on the situation in Libya and to discuss events following in the wake of the Council's adoption of resolution 1973 (2011).

At the Paris summit convened on 19 March by President Sarkozy, the international community called for an immediate ceasefire and agreed to undertake the necessary measures, pursuant to resolution 1973 (2011), to stop the brutal campaign of violence by the Libyan regime against its own people.

Resolution 1973 (2011) also reaffirmed Libya's sovereignty and territorial integrity and explicitly foreclosed any foreign occupation of Libyan territory.

Those issues dominated discussions during my recent travels. Authorities in Egypt and Tunisia were deeply concerned about their nationals who were still in Libya and about the heavy burden of caring for refugees at their borders, as well as about the daunting task of reintegrating nationals who had left the country.

In all of my meetings, public and private alike, I took special care to stress that action under resolution 1973 (2011) was governed by an overriding objective, namely, to save the lives of innocent civilians.

The international community has acted together to avert a potentially large-scale crisis. I expect the international community to continue to exercise full

diligence in avoiding civilian casualties and collateral damage.

Finally, I emphasized how important it is for the international community to speak with one voice both in implementing resolution 1973 (2011) and in dealing with the humanitarian situation. Tunisia and Egypt, because they have borne the brunt of the refugee crisis, deserve high praise.

Let me now update members on the implementation of resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011). As members are aware, military strikes were initiated on 19 March by United States and European forces with the objective of effectively establishing a no-fly zone over the country. That campaign is ongoing. Libyan authorities have repeatedly claimed that they have instituted a ceasefire, including in a call to me by the Prime Minister of Libya on 19 March. We see no evidence that that is the case. To the contrary, fierce battles continue in or around the cities of Ajdabiya, Misratah and Zitan, among others. In short, there is no evidence that Libyan authorities have taken steps to carry out their obligations under resolutions 1970 (2011) or 1973 (2011).

From the beginning, the United Nations has engaged in strong diplomatic efforts. I have kept in close touch with all parties, including Libyan authorities. I have called repeatedly for an immediate end to the violence and for unrestricted humanitarian access. In this context, let me note that humanitarian aid is exempt from the sanctions regime.

On 13 March, my Special Envoy to Libya, Mr. Abdel-Elah Al-Khatib, visited Tripoli accompanied by the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator. They and their teams undertook broad consultations with the Libyan Foreign Minister and other senior officials. My Envoy set forth the international community's position clearly and unequivocally. Attacks on civilians must stop; those responsible for crimes against their people will be held accountable; safe humanitarian access must be guaranteed; and resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011) must be implemented in full.

The Special Envoy emphasized that it was in Libya's best interest to cease hostilities and change the dynamics of the crisis. If Libya did not act to comply with resolution 1973 (2011), the Envoy stated, the Security Council may be prepared to take additional measures. The Libyan Foreign Minister responded by claiming that the Government had been forced to act as

it has by perceived threats from Al-Qaida and Islamist terrorists. He also told the Special Envoy that Libyan authorities had offered an amnesty to rebels who laid down their arms. Further, he stressed that mechanisms should be put in place so that rebel forces are also required to abide by any ceasefire.

On 21 March, my Special Envoy met with leaders of the Libyan armed opposition, including the Chairman of the Libyan Transitional National Council, in Tobruk. They reiterated their call for a ceasefire and for the lifting of the siege imposed by Libyan Government forces on some cities in rebel hands. They also expressed deep concern about the hardships inflicted on the Libyan people and demanded an end to the use of tanks and heavy weaponry targeting civilians. They further requested that we quickly dispatch a humanitarian assessment mission to all parts of the country.

Yesterday, I held an informal meeting with the African Union Chairman, Mr. Jean Ping, and discussed at length how the United Nations and the African Union can work together to resolve the Libyan situation. Tomorrow, my Special Envoy will travel to Addis Ababa for a meeting convened by the African Union. Representatives of both the Libyan Government and the opposition will attend, as will representatives of relevant Member States and regional organizations. Their aim is to reach a ceasefire and political solution.

Resolution 1973 (2011) demands that the Libyan authorities comply with their obligations under international law. The United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator and his team have had only limited access. We continue to have serious concerns, however, about the protection of civilians, abuses of human rights, violations of international humanitarian law, and the access of civilian populations to basic commodities and services in areas currently under siege.

More than 335,658 people have fled Libya since the beginning of the crisis. Some 9,000 remain stranded along Libya's borders with Tunisia and Egypt. As of 21 March, the International Organization for Migration and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees have provided evacuation assistance for more than 60,000 people leaving Libya. The regional flash appeal for the Libyan crisis, which requested \$160.3 million, is 63 per cent funded. There are also contingency plans to deal with possible new

waves of migrants and refugees totalling as many as 200,000 to 250,000 people.

Meanwhile, the World Food Programme has received reports that food prices in Libya are rising sharply, with the price of flour, for example, doubling in recent weeks. The United Nations and the Libyan authorities continue to be far apart in their respective analyses of the scope and scale of the humanitarian situation. No agreement has been reached on how an inter-agency needs-assessment mission would be carried out. I would like to remind all parties currently engaged in hostilities in Libya of their obligations under international humanitarian law to allow and facilitate the safe, rapid and unimpeded access of humanitarian organizations to populations in need.

My Special Envoy's mission was too brief to reach definitive conclusions about the human rights situation, but he found many worrying signs, including threats and incitement against the armed opposition. Colonel Al-Qadhafi's threats were aired repeatedly on national television. Journalists continue to be arrested. Foreign reporters in Tripoli told the United Nations mission about the population's general state of fear, tight control by the security services, and instances of arrest and disappearances.

In light of these findings, the Special Envoy informed the Government of Libya of the intention of the Human Rights Council to create an independent international commission of inquiry that will investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law in Libya, identify those responsible, make recommendations and report to the Human Rights Council. The Special Envoy formally requested the cooperation of the Government of Libya with the commission of inquiry, and this request was met with a positive response, although specific actions were not discussed.

Resolution 1973 (2011) requests Member States to notify my office immediately of the measures they take or intend to take to protect civilians, enforce the no-fly zone, and facilitate humanitarian operations and evacuation flights. The resolution requires that I report to the Council within seven days and every month thereafter on the implementation of the resolution, including any information on violations of the flight ban. Today, I am submitting my first report.

So far, the United Kingdom, France, the United States, Denmark, Canada, Italy, Qatar, Belgium,

Norway, Spain and the United Arab Emirates have sent letters of notification, circulated to all Council members, in line with the provisions of resolution 1973 (2011). We have also received notification from NATO of its decision to commence an alliance operation in support of an arms embargo against Libya pursuant to resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011).

I look forward to being kept informed as further implementing steps are taken by Council Governments, including the mechanism envisaged in paragraph 8 of the resolution. I shall also designate a focal point for coordination within the Secretariat. Similarly, we look forward to receiving a concept of operations from Member States, as envisaged in paragraph 11 of the resolution.

Resolution 1973 (2011) further requests that I set up a panel of experts to assist the Libya Committee in monitoring the implementation of the sanctions. The Secretariat is reviewing its roster of sanctions experts to

identify suitable candidates. Some have already been contacted. It is expected that those appointed to the panel will possess expertise in the areas of arms, finance, transportation — both aviation and maritime — and customs and border control.

Given the critical situation on the ground, it is imperative that we continue to act with speed and decision. The resolution places great responsibilities on the United Nations system. I assure the Council that we will work closely with Member States and regional organizations to coordinate a common, effective and timely response.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his briefing.

I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion of the subject.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.



Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6506th meeting

Friday, 25 March 2011, 10 a.m.

New York

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Li Baodong	(China)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalic
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Mounkara Moussotsi
	Germany	Mr. Berger
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Lebanon	Mr. Salam
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogu
	Portugal	Mr. Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . .	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mr. Dunn

Agenda

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Côte d'Ivoire to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Atul Khare, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I now give the floor to Mr. Khare.

Mr. Khare: We last provided an update to the Security Council on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire on 3 March. Since then, the security situation has further deteriorated with security forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo using heavy weapons against civilians in Abidjan, particularly in the Abobo, Adjamé, Attécoubé, Koumassi, Treichville and Williamsville neighbourhoods, which are known as strongholds of President Ouattara and which are shown on the map distributed to the members of the Council.

Allow me to mention a few of the most egregious incidents of the use of excessive force against civilians. On 3 March, in Abobo, security forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo used heavy machine guns against a group of women demonstrating peacefully in support of President Ouattara, killing seven women and seriously wounding many others.

On 7 March, the Ebrié ethnic community in Anonkoua-Kouté, located outside Abidjan, which is believed to support Mr. Gbagbo, was attacked by armed individuals, allegedly partisans of the so-called invisible commandos supporting President Ouattara. The attack resulted in the displacement of most of the community's some 5,000 inhabitants. On 8 March, at least four people were killed in Treichville when security forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo and armed individuals supporting President Ouattara clashed following a demonstration by women commemorating those who had been killed on 3 March.

On 11 March, in Abobo, eight civilians, including three children, were killed when elements of the forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo used heavy weapons, including rocket-propelled grenades and mortars. On 15 March, unidentified persons threw a grenade into a heavily populated area of Attécoubé, killing one person and wounding at least 18. On 17 March, more than 25 people were killed and more than 40 wounded when security forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo fired several mortar shells at a market building in Abobo. On 19 March, the village of Akeikoi, near Abidjan, which is predominantly inhabited by the Attié ethnic community believed to support Mr. Gbagbo, was raided by armed men who were allegedly partisans of the so-called invisible commandos.

Yesterday, on 24 March, the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) received information that civilians had been shelled from Camp Commando in Abobo-Samanké. A UNOCI patrol attended the scene. Upon reaching the location, the patrol observed security forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo firing mortars. UNOCI opened fire at the mortar position and the security forces consequently fled their position.

Numerous smaller-scale incidents also continue to take place in these areas. Many of the wounded civilians are being brought to the headquarters of UNOCI, which has been providing medical treatment. To date, UNOCI — the mission authorized by the Security Council — has treated 254 wounded persons, of whom 131 had gunshot wounds, 77 were wounded by grenades and 46 by machete or had burn injuries. The capacity of the mission's level-I plus hospital is seriously overstretched and immediate support in terms of a surgical team would help the mission to address that challenge.

Many clashes between the Young Patriots and supporters of President Ouattara have also occurred in the Yopougon neighbourhood of Abidjan. There have also been attacks by both the Young Patriots and the armed forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo targeting nationals from West African countries. Business premises owned by nationals of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) countries have been vandalized and looted in Abidjan. Forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo also vandalized and looted residences of several Ministers of President Ouattara's Government in Abidjan between 3 and 5 March. In retaliation, youth groups loyal to President Ouattara looted two houses

belonging to senior officials of Mr. Gbagbo's party in Bouaké and Abidjan.

Meanwhile, fighting between elements of the defence and security forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo and the Forces nouvelles, in violation of the Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement signed on 3 May 2003, remains a major issue of concern. Both sides are reportedly using heavy weapons, while continuing to recruit, train and arm their forces. On 6 March, the Forces nouvelles took control of Toulepleu, a key town on the border with Liberia, after heavy fighting with forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo, capturing a multibarrel rocket launcher — known in military parlance as a BM-21 — abandoned by the Forces de défense et de sécurité (FDS). From there, the Forces nouvelles advanced towards Guiglo. Fighting was reported in Daloa and Bonoufla, with the Forces nouvelles reportedly taking control of the villages of Doke and Zaibo, as well as Bloléquin, after heavy fighting on 20 March.

While President Ouattara signed a decree on 17 March unifying the Ivorian defence and security forces and the Forces nouvelles under a single command, called the Forces républicaines de Côte d'Ivoire, on 19 March the leader of the Young Patriots, Mr. Charles Blé Goudé, called on the Young Patriots to report to FDS headquarters on 21 March to enrol in the army in order to "liberate" the country.

The deteriorating security situation and the escalation in the use of heavy weapons have taken a serious toll on the lives and well-being of the Ivorian people. The human rights situation is very grave, with a high number of human rights violations reported. UNOCI reported 462 killings between mid-December and 23 March, of which 72 victims were ECOWAS nationals; at least 520 cases of arbitrary arrest and detention, some involving torture; and at least 72 cases of disappearances.

I am also very concerned about the dire humanitarian situation and its potential to exacerbate the situation in Côte d'Ivoire and in the subregion, particularly in Liberia. To date, over 93,000 people have sought refuge in Liberia, while up to 1 million have been internally displaced, of whom some 300,000 are in Abidjan, while many are leaving the city. In that regard, I would stress that the emergency humanitarian flash appeal for Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia remains seriously underfunded, hampering the ability of the United Nations to provide much-needed services to

those forced to flee their homes. Access to those affected by the ongoing crisis remains a serious concern. It is essential that all sides allow unhindered access for humanitarian actors to reach those in need.

Meanwhile, the Young Patriots and security forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo continued to obstruct UNOCI operations, including by blocking access by UNOCI patrols to areas where clashes between forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo and supporters of President Ouattara were ongoing. In addition, a number of attacks against United Nations personnel were reported. For example, on 12 March, Young Patriots attacked a UNOCI staff member in the parking lot of a supermarket. He was wounded and robbed, while the United Nations vehicle was set on fire. On 15 March, one peacekeeper was reported missing, allegedly abducted by Young Patriots; he is still unaccounted for. On 16 March, a UNOCI supply convoy was fired upon by forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo in the area of Abobo in Abidjan. On 23 March, in Guiglo, armed elements forced their way into the premises of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees several times, removing equipment and a number of vehicles. A crowd of Young Patriots prevented a response by UNOCI forces.

On the political front, as Council members are already aware, the High-Level Panel met in Addis Ababa on 9 March to develop its recommendations to the African Union Peace and Security Council. Special Representative of the Secretary-General Djinnit was present. On 10 March, the African Union Peace and Security Council met at the level of Heads of State to receive the recommendations of the Panel, in the presence of President Ouattara and representatives of Mr. Gbagbo, and endorsed the Panel's recommendations. The African Union Peace and Security Council requested the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to appoint a high representative to facilitate the implementation of the Panel's recommendations.

In an address to the nation on 15 March, President Ouattara stated that he had accepted the decisions of the African Union Peace and Security Council and outlined his vision, with an emphasis on national reconciliation, including the formation of a Government of national unity and a truth and reconciliation commission, as well as the implementation of the unfinished tasks in the Ouagadougou Political Agreement.

However, Mr. Gbagbo's "cabinet" met and issued a communiqué on 17 March stating that the African Union had made its decision without a proper evaluation of the elections, and adding that an inter-Ivorian dialogue would be the only way to resolve the crisis. The communiqué further demanded that "the rebels" disarm. As mentioned earlier, that cabinet statement was immediately followed by a call from the leader of the Young Patriots to mobilize the youth to "liberate" Côte d'Ivoire.

Let me now turn to the actions that UNOCI has been undertaking to protect civilians, including investigating and documenting abuses and violations of human rights under very challenging circumstances. For example, on 12 March, in Attécoubé in Abidjan, the FDS blocked a patrol responding to calls by shop owners and civilians that were being attacked by Young Patriots. UNOCI reinforced the patrol, which forced its way through the barricades and reached the area, where it helped to put out fires in shops that had been set alight and evacuated the wounded. UNOCI has also increased the number of patrols to vulnerable communities or neighbourhoods under attack. UNOCI has made arrangements for a permanent patrol to be stationed on a 24/7 basis in the high-risk neighbourhood of Abobo. We believe that these measures have prevented additional killings in Abobo, Attécoubé and Koumassi from taking place.

Aerial reconnaissance is being conducted in Abidjan and in the rest of the country, using the armed helicopters temporarily redeployed from the United Nations Mission in Liberia to UNOCI to deter violence. Meanwhile, the new Force Commander, General Béréna, assumed his responsibilities on 20 March, and we would like to convey again our appreciation to the former Force Commander, General Hafiz, for his service.

UNOCI has now been able to access some of the sites of alleged mass graves that the Mission had previously been prevented from visiting. Efforts are under way to investigate reported sites of mass graves. The Mission received information about alleged killings of 200 ECOWAS nationals in villages in the Duekoue area and is preparing to send a team to investigate these allegations. The Mission continues to record all reported human rights violations. At the same time, UNOCI is making every effort to keep channels of communication open with both sides.

Before concluding, I would like to express our appreciation to the leaders of ECOWAS, who met over the past two days in Abuja and took very important decisions on Côte d'Ivoire. Special Representative Djinnit was invited to the summit. As members of the Council are aware, in their resolution they strongly condemned the ongoing violence against civilians and deplored the deliberate targeting of ECOWAS citizens and other foreign nationals and attacks on United Nations personnel. They made it clear that the deteriorating security situation and the escalating violence are a "direct consequence of the refusal of out-going President, Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, to cede power to Mr. Alassane Ouattara, the universally recognized winner of the 28 November 2010 election". The resolution states that the time has come to enforce the decisions to ensure the transfer of power to President Ouattara with out any further delay. To this end, ECOWAS requested the Security Council to authorize the immediate implementation of previous ECOWAS decisions.

The summit also directed the President of the ECOWAS Commission to explore all avenues to provide President Ouattara's Government with the necessary legal and diplomatic means to exercise its authority. It further requested the Security Council to consider the situation in Côte d'Ivoire with a view to strengthening UNOCI's mandate, and to adopt more stringent international sanctions against Mr. Gbagbo and his associates. Finally, it urged the international community to ensure an enabling environment for the population and UNOCI to implement its mandate, including the protection of civilians, and invited the African Union Commission to urgently implement the 10 March decisions of the African Union Peace and Security Council.

I should like to conclude here by again noting that the Mission is making every effort, in the challenging circumstances it faces, to enhance its work and to ensure that the mandates provided by the Security Council are implemented on the ground.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Mr. Khare for his briefing.

I now give the floor to the representative of Côte d'Ivoire.

Mr. Bamba (Côte d'Ivoire) (*spoke in French*): As this is the first time that I am taking the floor in the Security Council since having been appointed and

begun my work as Permanent Representative by the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, His Excellency Mr. Alassane Ouattara, on this solemn occasion I should like to convey the profound and sincere gratitude of the people, the Government and the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to the members of the Security Council for having paid tireless attention to the Ivorian crisis.

The obligation and responsibility to protect civilians in situations of imminent danger is at the heart of the concerns of the international public opinion, given the situation that has prevailed in Côte d'Ivoire since 28 November 2010 and despite the presence of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), which is mandated, *inter alia*, to protect civilians in imminent danger of violence. Over the past three months, Mr. Gbagbo's forces have committed massive violations of human rights and massacred more than 500 civilians with their hands tied. In the light of this duty and responsibility to protect civilians, my delegation calls on the Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, to authorize the strengthening of the mandate and current posture of UNOCI.

The thirty-ninth Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), held in Abuja, Nigeria, on 23 and 24 March, adopted resolution A/RES.1/03/11 of 24 March. The resolution, *inter alia*,

"requests the United Nations Security Council to authorize the immediate implementation of the Authority Decisions of December 2010. In this context, [it] requests the United Nations Security Council to strengthen the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire... enabling the Mission to use all necessary means to protect life and property, and to facilitate the immediate transfer of power to Mr. Alassane Ouattara".

The resolution also recalled

"the decisions of the Extraordinary Summits of the Authority of 7 and 24 December 2010, particularly regarding paragraph 10 of the latter, which states: 'In the event that Mr. Gbagbo fails to heed the immutable demand of ECOWAS to hand over power, the Community would be left with no alternative but to take other measures, including the use of legitimate force, to achieve the goals of the Ivorian people'".

Therefore, taking into account the deep involvement of ECOWAS in addressing the Ivorian crisis, the application of Chapter VIII in this regard seems relevant to us, with a view to ensuring the necessary coordination and cooperation between UNOCI and ECOWAS in order to effectively protect Côte d'Ivoire's civilian population, millions of whom were born in other ECOWAS countries.

In its decision taken at the 265th meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 10 March, the African Union Peace and Security Council definitively confirmed the legitimacy of Mr. Alassane Ouattara as President of Côte d'Ivoire. It also called on Mr. Gbagbo, for the last time, to peacefully cede power in no more than two weeks. A high representative of the African Union is to be appointed to implement that decision. With the deadline having passed yesterday, a high representative is yet to be named.

Assistant Secretary-General Khare referred to the escalation of violence currently taking place in Côte d'Ivoire, which is a matter of genuine concern. Ivorians are dying every day. Human rights violations are taking place daily. Every Ivorian is experiencing the traumatic effects of this situation. I would just refer to two incidents. On the morning of 3 March, women who had gone out to demonstrate — in a joyous, carnival-like atmosphere — were machine-gunned by Mr. Gbagbo's forces. Like members of the Council, many people were shocked by the images broadcast around the world. Four days later, artillery shells were fired at a market in the neighbourhood of Abobo. The mortars that fell in the centre of the market, during the busiest period, killed 40 and injured 60.

My delegation is concerned, and has asked to speak here to draw the Council's attention to this unbridled escalation of violence in Côte d'Ivoire. Moreover, we wish to reiterate our condemnation, voiced some time ago, in connection with what is a situation of ethnic cleansing or premeditated genocide. Those being targeted include, first, Ivorians of Dioula and Baoulé ethnicities, whose members include, respectively President Alassane Ouattara and President Henri Konan Bédié, his ally in the coalition with the Rally of Houphouëtistes for Democracy and Peace; secondly, nationals from other ECOWAS States living in Côte d'Ivoire, including from Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Ghana, Togo and Benin; and, thirdly, Africans of the Muslim faith.

Civilians living in Côte d'Ivoire are victims of Mr. Gbagbo's reign of terror, whose atrocities include a propensity by his militias to desecrate mosques and assassinate Muslim clergy, in the hope of provoking a similar reaction by the Muslim community, thereby sparking an inter-ethnic conflict of incalculable consequences. Fortunately, in their great wisdom, leaders of the Muslim community have echoed the calls for calm and restraint, which have been heeded by their followers.

The toll of the atrocities since the beginning of the post-electoral crisis up to 18 March is as follows: 859 killed by gunfire; 1,886 injured, 542 of them seriously; 100 persons disappeared; and 876 arrests, with 45 persons still being held.

As expected, this situation has set off an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe in Côte d'Ivoire, with negative consequences for the region. The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations has already cited statistics, so I shall not repeat them.

Faced with a situation that is further deteriorating on a daily basis, the tragedy being experienced by our people and the danger of increased crimes against humanity, my delegation solemnly calls on the Security Council to immediately adopt robust measures against former President Gbagbo and all those who support him. Those measures should include, first, the immediate establishment by UNOCI and the Licorne force of a comprehensive plan throughout the country to provide security for civilians in imminent threat of danger, especially in Abobo and Anyama, by putting in place a security cordon; second, the destruction of military weapons used by Mr. Gbagbo's forces to carry out the massacre of civilians; third, completely isolating Mr. Gbagbo by not recognizing his representatives, in particular in Africa; fourth, a prohibition on the issuance of visas to Mr. Gbagbo and members of his family and inner circle; fifth, the

strengthening of monitoring of the embargo on weapons and the application of sanctions against countries that contribute to its violation; sixth, freezing the assets held abroad by Mr. Gbagbo, his family and his inner circle; seventh, submitting the serious violations of human rights and crimes against humanity in Côte d'Ivoire to the International Criminal Court; and, lastly, emergency authorization of the legitimate use of force to safeguard Côte d'Ivoire's population, democracy and peace, as well as to install President Alassane Ouattara fully into office.

We have recently learned that Mr. Gbagbo's militias have acquired weapons of mass destruction, including BM-21 multiple rocket launchers and a Mi-24 helicopter, which they are preparing to use against civilians. In addition, we have been informed that heavy weapons are pointed at the Golf Hotel, where the President of Côte d'Ivoire is temporarily lodged. Those weapons pose an ongoing real threat against the personal security of the country's President, his Government and all those inside the Golf Hotel.

The question that arises is, Can the Security Council content itself with remaining a passive observer in the face of the calculated extermination of many thousands of people living in Côte d'Ivoire?

In his latest message to the nation, President Ouattara expressed his desire to bring together, without distinction, all the people of Côte d'Ivoire, carrying out a concrete programme for national reconciliation and the unification of the army and the country as a whole. President Ouattara believes that we must close the chapter on violence and civil war. Côte d'Ivoire should once again become the country of peace and hospitality it has always been, and once again follow its calling, in the words of its national anthem, as a united and welcoming country.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion of the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.



Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6507th meeting

Monday, 28 March 2011, 3 p.m.

New York

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Li Baodong	(China)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ms. Čolaković
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Berger
	India	Mr. Kumar
	Lebanon	Mr. Salam
	Nigeria	Mr. Amieyefori
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Mashabane
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mrs. DiCarlo

Agenda

The situation in Libya

Briefing by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.



The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Libya

Briefing by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011)

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

At this meeting, the Security Council will hear a briefing by Ambassador José Filipe Moraes Cabral, Permanent Representative of Portugal, who will speak in his capacity as Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011).

I now give the floor to Ambassador Moraes Cabral.

Mr. Moraes Cabral (Portugal): I thank you, Mr. President, for convening this meeting and giving me the opportunity to present the first report of the Committee established recently pursuant to Security Council resolution 1970 (2011), on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The text of this report, which will be posted in full on the website of the Committee, which is already available, gives us a picture of the activities undertaken until today by the Committee. I will now read out the main elements of the Committee's report.

The mandate of the Committee, first set out in resolution 1970 (2011), was subsequently expanded by resolution 1973 (2011) to also apply to the measures decided in that resolution. Broadly speaking, the Committee's tasks include overseeing the arms embargo, travel ban, assets freeze and ban on flights of Libyan aircraft. Currently, there are 18 individuals designated as being subject to the travel ban, and 13 individuals and 5 entities designated as being subject to the assets freeze.

Since the adoption of the two resolutions, the Committee has met twice in informal consultations followed by a formal meeting to conduct its work. Moreover, prior to its first meeting, the Committee considered and approved on an expedited basis an

urgent request for an exemption to the aforementioned ban on flights, in accordance with paragraph 17 of resolution 1973 (2011), to allow a Member State to evacuate its nationals from Libyan territory using a Libyan-company-owned aircraft.

After briefly discussing several proposals in informal consultations on 25 March, the members of the Committee agreed to adopt these proposals in a formal meeting immediately afterwards. Thus, at its first meeting, the Committee adopted provisional guidelines for the conduct of its work. It approved a note verbale that contained a reminder to all Member States to report to the Committee on the implementation of the relevant provisions of resolution 1970 (2011) regarding the arms embargo, the travel ban and the assets freeze within 120 days of the adoption of the resolution. The Committee also approved an update to its lists of individuals and entities. Finally, it agreed to the issuance of a press release on its work. All of these documents will be made available on the Committee's website.

In addition, in the prior consultations under other matters, the members of the Committee were alerted to forthcoming proposals on additional designations by members of the Committee. They also heard a brief update from the Secretariat on the status of recruitment for the Panel of Experts, to be made up of up to eight experts, as established by resolution 1973 (2011). Following a preliminary discussion of a query received from a Member State on the scope of the assets freeze, the members of the Committee agreed to consider a draft reply under the written non-objection procedure. An urgent request for guidance from another Member State, which involves providing clarification as to whether the assets freeze applies to the subsidiary of a designated entity, is also under consideration.

I have now concluded the outline of the most important aspects of the report. For my part, I would like to use this opportunity to highlight some elements concerning the work of the Committee in overseeing the sanctions regime imposed by resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011).

As I mentioned earlier, the Committee has already held two meetings. The Committee was able to quickly adopt provisional guidelines and is now fully operational to carry out its work. The Committee will be working on further designations of individuals and entities concerning the assets freeze, which, according

to paragraph 19 of resolution 1973 (2011), have to be made within the next three weeks. The Secretariat is also working to recruit experts to establish the Panel of Experts that will assist the Committee in carrying out its mandate and report to the Council on its findings and recommendations. We hope to have the Panel established soon.

The prompt response of the Council, by adopting resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011), is a clear signal of its determination to address the situation in Libya and enable the Libyan population, through a national dialogue, to fulfil its legitimate aspirations to political reform in a peaceful and sustainable way while preserving the independence, territorial integrity and national unity of their country as stated in resolution 1973 (2011).

The efficient implementation of the sanctions regime is crucial in that regard — hence the importance of Member States engaging actively in its implementation. I wish here to remind Member States of their reporting obligations resulting from resolution 1970 (2011) and to stress how important it is for the Committee to promptly receive national implementation

reports, which are due within 120 days, meaning by 26 June.

I should like to say one final word concerning the transparency of the work of the Committee, to which we are committed and which we will always try to improve. Even if it is rather early in the Committee's existence and there is only a short history on which to report, I am very glad that the first briefing is taking place here at an open meeting before the general membership. The success of sanctions lies in the active contribution of States to their implementation and their commitment and understanding of the regimes, which is only strengthened by transparency. We will try to keep it that way, as we intend to organize, whenever needed, informal briefings to the general membership on the work of the Committee.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I thank Ambassador Moraes Cabral for his briefing.

I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 3.20 p.m.

**Security Council**

Sixty-sixth year

*Provisional***6508**th meeting

Wednesday, 30 March 2011, 5 p.m.

New York

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Li Baodong	(China)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Vukašinić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Berger
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Lebanon	Mr. Assaf
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

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The meeting was called to order at 5.10 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I should like to invite the representative of Côte d'Ivoire to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2011/202, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by France and Nigeria.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/182, which contains a letter dated 24 March 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Nigeria addressed to the President of the Security Council.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it.

I shall now put the draft resolution to the vote.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): The draft resolution received 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1975 (2011).

I shall now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements following the voting.

Mrs. Ogwu (Nigeria): When the thirty-ninth Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Ordinary Summit of the Authority of Heads of State and Government called upon the Security Council to revisit the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, it did so in response to the rapidly

deteriorating political security and humanitarian situation in that country.

The reports that we have received from numerous sources, including those from the Office of the Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs, indicate that the unthinkable is taking place before our very eyes. The fragile peace established by the Ouagadougou accord a mere four years ago is quickly unravelling through patterns of killing, rape and the destruction of property. Angry militias and young people are being indoctrinated, trained, armed and deployed to seek out and harm civilian targets, increasingly through the use of heavy weaponry and explosives.

Those hardest hit are the most vulnerable — women and children who have committed no greater crime than trying to lead a normal life. Not only are civilians suffering from indiscriminate attacks, there is mounting evidence that they are also being specifically targeted. Such heinous acts violate international humanitarian law. The fact that the violence is beginning to take on ethnic and sectarian overtones is an indication of the risk of a relapse into the recent state of civil war in Côte d'Ivoire.

As stakeholders in the future of Côte d'Ivoire, the United Nations, ECOWAS and the African Union have a moral and legal obligation. Therefore, we cannot be a party to this inexorable degeneration. The inevitable consequence of such a relapse would imperil the West African subregion. This is already happening, as civilians have begun to seek refuge in Liberia, Ghana and other neighbouring countries. The added strain on those societies should not be underestimated, and the risk of conflict spillover is all too real.

Further, there is evidence of attacks on foreign nationals, including targeted attacks on those from ECOWAS States. Let there be no doubt that this situation is a collective global responsibility. We must act now.

The current situation is without a doubt a direct consequence of the refusal of Mr. Laurent Gbagbo to cede power to President Alassane Ouattara. This is unacceptable. Mr. Gbagbo's intransigence threatens to plunge his country, once the beacon of the subregion, into a bloody and protracted civil war. It is indeed time to translate the words of the Security Council's press statements of 10 January, 3 March and 11 March 2011 into concrete action.

In response to the rapidly developing circumstances, this resolution reinforces those sanctions already in place, as part of an incremental approach, to which we have all agreed, to resolving the conflict. Nigeria is confident that the resolution strengthens the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) to protect Ivorians and provides the necessary space for UNOCI and other international actors to work without hindrance.

The targeted measures against Mr. Gbagbo and his close associates will complement and strengthen the international actions that have curtailed his access to Côte d'Ivoire's accounts and resources. Moreover, our support for the political efforts of the African Union and other interlocutors has already been expressed in the Council. These preventive diplomacy strategies can create space for a peaceful transition of power.

The collective action that we have taken today by adopting this resolution is a significant step towards protecting the defenceless civilians, including women and children, in Côte d'Ivoire, who bear the brunt of the brutal attacks.

The political stalemate in Côte d'Ivoire has led to an absence of effective governance, and, indeed, the unrest is spiralling out of control. This resolution provides an opportunity to stem the tide of conflict in Côte d'Ivoire. In this defining moment for Côte d'Ivoire, it is imperative that we all ensure that the valid aspirations of the Ivorian people are ultimately fulfilled.

Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri (India): India is seriously concerned at the situation that has prevailed in Côte d'Ivoire since the presidential elections last year. We have consistently held that both parties in Côte d'Ivoire should exercise maximum restraint and respect the outcome of the elections. We have urged the parties to ensure that there is no violence, because it harms the well-being of the Ivorian people and distracts from the main task of economic development, social cohesion and national reconciliation.

During the last three months, we have supported all efforts to resolve the current problem peacefully and through dialogue. To that end, we have supported the efforts of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union to find a political solution leading to the restoration of

democracy and the will of the Ivorian people at the earliest. With that objective in mind, we voted in favour of the resolution adopted today.

We want to put on record that United Nations peacekeepers should draw their mandate from the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. They cannot be made instruments of regime change. Accordingly, the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) should not become a party to the Ivorian political stalemate. UNOCI should also not get involved in a civil war, but carry out its mandate with impartiality and while ensuring the safety and security of peacekeepers and civilians. In this context, we have noted that a UNOCI helicopter was fired upon by the Forces républicaines de Côte d'Ivoire yesterday, 29 March. We call on all parties to respect UNOCI's military impartiality.

The Council has heard various allegations of serious crimes committed against civilians in Côte d'Ivoire. There should be no a priori presumption about the nature of these alleged crimes. Each allegation has to be investigated on a case-by-case basis by the competent national bodies, and further action taken pursuant to relevant laws.

We also want to place on record our growing concern at the tendency to hurry the process of adopting resolutions. We think that there should be enough time for deliberations and consultations with all countries concerned. In situations such as those envisaged in the present resolution, it is imperative that troop-contributing countries be first consulted on the mandate of United Nations peacekeepers. Such consultations are necessary not only to making well-considered decisions, but also to the effective implementation of the mandate.

We want to reiterate that India is not a member of the International Criminal Court (ICC). Of the 192 Members of the United Nations, only 114 are members of the ICC. Five of the 15 members of the Security Council, including three permanent members, are not parties to the Rome Statute. It is also important to note that there are clear legal provisions concerning States parties to the Rome Statute. There are also guidelines for States that are not parties to the Rome Statute to accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the ICC. These provisions and guidelines should be followed without exception. It merits underlining that there is no mandate in resolution 1975 (2011) for the Security

Council to refer the situation in Côte d'Ivoire to the ICC.

Mr. Sangqu (South Africa): South Africa remains deeply concerned about the deteriorating situation in Côte d'Ivoire, a sisterly country that has always been a beacon of stability and prosperity in West Africa and Africa as a whole. South Africa believes that the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States and the United Nations must persist in their quest to find a peaceful political solution to the current crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, which is now rapidly slipping into civil war. A political solution aimed at restoring national reconciliation and unity, democracy and good governance is the only sustainable approach to ensuring long-term stability in Côte d'Ivoire.

In that regard, the African Union Peace and Security Council, in its summit meeting of 10 March, endorsed the recommendations of its High-level Panel on an overall political solution to the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. The AU reaffirmed its recognition of the election of Mr. Alassane Ouattara as the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. South Africa wishes to encourage the Chairperson of the AU Commission to continue in his efforts to appoint a high representative whose mandate would be to implement an overall political solution and to complete the process for a way out of the crisis.

The indiscriminate violence throughout the country continues to cause untold human suffering, with serious regional consequences. The continued senseless killing of civilians, threats and acts of intimidation, as well as the rising number of refugees, are serious violations of the human rights of civilians. We call on all parties to put an end to these violations and to avoid a further escalation of hostilities.

South Africa voted in favour of resolution 1775 (2011), as it is fully in line with the road map outlined by the African Union, which calls for an end to hostilities, for the protection of civilians, and for the parties to implement the political road map outlined by the High-level Panel. Additionally, the resolution strengthens the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire by allowing it, while impartially implementing its mandate, to protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence, within its capabilities and its area of deployment.

We urge the parties to comply with the terms of the resolution just adopted and, through their actions, to work towards a sustainable political solution that takes into account the will of all Ivorians. Continued violence exacerbates instability in Côte d'Ivoire and the West African region as a whole.

Mrs. Viotti (Brazil): Brazil is following with great concern the deterioration of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire. The escalation of violence throughout the country and the increase in human rights violations are unacceptable results of a protracted dispute. We support the sending of a clear message from the Security Council that all violence should immediately stop.

Brazil strongly condemns all violence against civilians, regardless of its origin. We urge all Ivorians to exercise restraint. The authority of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) must be respected by all parties. Its personnel should be able to fulfil UNOCI's mandate free of threat, attack and restriction of movement. While implementing its mandate to protect civilians, UNOCI must exercise caution and impartiality so as not to become party to the conflict.

Brazil continues to strongly support a political process that promotes a negotiated settlement to the crisis while upholding the will of the Ivorian people, as reflected in the recent elections. The efforts of the African Union and other regional actors in this regard deserve our strong support. In that sense, we are encouraged by the inclusion in resolution 1775 (2011), adopted today, of provisions to emphasize the need to pursue a political solution that preserves democracy and peace in Côte d'Ivoire and promotes lasting reconciliation among all Ivorians. More than ever, preventing Côte d'Ivoire from relapsing into conflict should be the Council's utmost priority.

Mr. Messone (Gabon) (*spoke in French*): I thank the delegations of France and Nigeria for having submitted resolution 1775 (2011).

Gabon has always sought a peaceful solution to the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. I recall that, following the elections of 28 November 2010, Gabon aligned itself with the position of the international community, the United Nations, the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States recognizing Mr. Alassane Ouattara as President of Côte d'Ivoire. During the post-electoral crisis, Gabon has supported

all initiatives to promote dialogue towards achieving a lasting, peaceful solution to the crisis.

The heightened violence and attacks on the civilian population remain of great concern to us. We firmly condemn all such violence, and in particular the use of heavy weaponry against civilians. My delegation recalls that, when resolution 1962 (2010) was adopted in December 2010, Gabon expressed its readiness to endorse firmer measures, including targeted sanctions against those who threatened the peace and national reconciliation process, called the results of the presidential election into question, hindered the work of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, and committed serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law.

It was largely with a view to protecting the civilian population that we voted today in favour of resolution 1975 (2011). Gabon is convinced that all the measures contained in the resolution adopted by consensus by the Security Council today will help to better protect civilians and establish conditions conducive to improving the humanitarian situation, which has already created hardships for the countries of the region and threatened their stability.

Lastly, while we welcome the consensus in the Security Council, my delegation would also like to point out that the measures contained in the resolution should bring about a comprehensive political outcome that safeguards peace and democracy, drives the country's reconstruction and promotes reconciliation among all Ivoirians.

Ms. Rice (United States of America): The United States welcomes the unanimous adoption of this strong resolution this afternoon. The Council has met on numerous occasions in an attempt to find a peaceful end to the ongoing crisis. We have strongly condemned the violence. We have urged former President Gbagbo to step aside so that President Ouattara, as the duly elected President of Côte d'Ivoire, can govern. We have stressed our support for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire and its mandate to protect civilians. And we have adopted targeted sanctions against those most responsible for obstructing peace.

This resolution sends a strong signal that Mr. Gbagbo and his followers should immediately reject violence and respect the will of the Ivorian people. As violence continues, Côte d'Ivoire stands at a crossroads. Mr. Gbagbo and his supporters can

continue to cling to power, which will only lead to more innocent civilians being wounded and killed and more diplomatic and economic isolation, or Mr. Gbagbo and his followers can finally reject violence and respect the will of the Ivorian people. If that path is chosen, Ivoirians can reclaim their country and rebuild the vibrant economy that was once admired by all of Africa.

The United States urges the Security Council to support and work with President Ouattara in his efforts to create a peaceful and prosperous future for all Ivoirians — a future based on inclusive governance, reunification and reconciliation. We urge all parties to exercise restraint and to avoid violence against civilians. Now is the time for all Ivoirians to embrace the path of peace and to unite in rebuilding Côte d'Ivoire so that future generations can enjoy the stability and prosperity that all Ivoirians deserve.

Mr. Berger (Germany): Germany also welcomes the unanimous adoption of this resolution, and we would like to thank France and Nigeria for their initiative.

The rapidly deteriorating security situation in Côte d'Ivoire is highly alarming. We are deeply concerned about reports of increased fighting and violence against civilians, as well as about armament and recruitment, including of mercenaries. Côte d'Ivoire is on the brink of a full-scale civil war. By adopting this resolution today, the Council has demonstrated that it is ready to act in the face of the deteriorating security situation on the ground.

With this resolution the Council sends a strong and urgent signal to Laurent Gbagbo and his entourage that the time to step aside has come, in order to prevent further violence and to enable the start of a political process that should result in peace, reconciliation and democracy in the country. Germany fully supports this resolution, which urges all parties to show the utmost restraint and to prevent a relapse into civil war.

We commend the work of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire. We encourage the peacekeeping mission to make full use of its mandate, provided by the Security Council to ensure, within its capabilities, the protection of civilians under imminent threat of physical violence. We are very concerned about increasing attacks and violence, committed not only against civilians but also against United Nations personnel. Those who commit such acts must be

brought to national and international justice, including, where applicable, to the International Criminal Court.

Today's resolution should not be seen as substituting for a political process. We strongly welcome the efforts undertaken by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union to seek a political resolution of the crisis in concert with the Security Council. We encourage the African Union and ECOWAS to redouble their efforts to find a lasting political solution.

We are deeply concerned about continued human rights violations and the dire humanitarian situation for displaced persons and refugees in Côte d'Ivoire and neighbouring States, in particular in Liberia. We look forward to the report of the independent international commission of inquiry to be appointed by the President of the Human Rights Council, as well as to reports on the humanitarian situation.

Mr. Osorio (Colombia) (*spoke in Spanish*): The increasing deterioration of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire is alarming, as is the contemptuous manner in which Mr. Gbagbo has ignored the calls by the United Nations and regional bodies in Africa. We are concerned about the ongoing violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the civilian population, including women and children. That merits our unreserved condemnation — which is why we reiterate the fundamental responsibility of Côte d'Ivoire to protect all people on its territory. We hope that the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire will be able, in an atmosphere of impartiality, to contribute to protecting the civilian population and its rights.

Colombia believes that by adopting this resolution the Council is categorically reiterating its determination to hold responsible those who hinder the peace and reconciliation process and incite hatred and violence. We therefore voted in its favour. The sanctions against the individuals designated by the Council should be carried out, with the international community called upon to ensure their full and effective implementation.

My delegation would like to underscore the urgency of immediately putting an end to this violence. We are convinced of the need to find a political solution to the crisis in order to respect the will of the people of Côte d'Ivoire and promote peace and reconciliation among all Ivorians.

We reiterate that a solution to the crisis requires acknowledging the results of the November 2010 elections. My delegation rejects Mr. Gbagbo's decision to ignore the proposal for a political solution put forward by the African Union High-Level Panel. We urge him to give up power immediately.

Mr. Parham (United Kingdom): This unanimous resolution sends an important message about the firm resolve of the international community to see a swift resolution to the political crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. It responds to an urgent situation. Events are moving fast on the ground. The security situation continues to deteriorate. And the position of civilians is of increasing concern. I would like to highlight four main points in the resolution.

First, it condemns the violence in Côte d'Ivoire and calls for the implementation of a political solution.

Secondly, it explicitly calls for Mr. Gbagbo to step aside to enable such a solution and calls for all Ivorian State institutions, including the Defence and Security Forces of Côte d'Ivoire, to yield to the authority vested by the Ivorian people in President Ouattara.

Thirdly, it specifically targets Mr. Gbagbo and those close to him for financial sanctions and travel bans. Such measures are in support of the African Union's efforts to find a political solution, and respond to the calls made to the Security Council by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in its communiqué of 24 March. The United Kingdom supports the continued efforts of the African Union and ECOWAS to implement a peaceful transfer of power and to avoid violence.

Fourthly, the resolution also reinforces action to protect civilians. It does not alter the robust mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), under which the Operation is already authorized to use all necessary means to protect civilians, but it does reaffirm UNOCI's role in protecting civilians and preventing the use of heavy weapons against civilians. It also underlines the importance of the protection of civilians by all parties.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I shall now make a statement in my capacity as the Permanent Representative of China.

China voted in favour of resolution 1975 (2011), which was just adopted. China is seriously concerned

at the continuing deterioration in the security situation in Côte d'Ivoire. We call on all Ivorian parties to immediately cease all violence and armed confrontations, and to seek to settle their differences through dialogue and consultations.

We believe that the crisis caused by the elections in Côte d'Ivoire must be addressed through peaceful means. We appreciate and support the efforts made by the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States to find a political settlement to the crisis. We call on all Ivorian parties to show active and comprehensive cooperation.

China's position regarding the International Criminal Court remains unchanged.

China always believes that United Nations peacekeeping operations should strictly abide by the principle of neutrality. We hope that the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire will fulfil its mandate in a strict and comprehensive manner, help to peacefully settle the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire and avoid becoming a party to the conflict.

I now resume my functions as President of the Council.

I give the floor to the representative of Côte d'Ivoire.

Mr. Bamba (Côte d'Ivoire) (*spoke in French*): The protection of the civilian population in Côte d'Ivoire, which is living under threat, compounded by a deteriorating humanitarian situation marked by massive numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons, remains a matter of the greatest concern to the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, His Excellency Mr. Alassane Ouattara, and his Government. The international community, like the Ivorian Government, cannot remain silent and impassive. We must find the means to protect the civilian population and to deliver humanitarian relief and assistance to the victims.

The African Union and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have called for the strengthening of the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the imposition of targeted sanctions against the outgoing President — who refuses to peacefully give up power — and his entourage. Subsequently, in my most recent statement to the Security Council (see S/PV.6506), my delegation sought the adoption of

robust deterrent measures to prevent the use of violence against innocent civilians and restore lasting peace and security in Côte d'Ivoire

The Security Council has just provided a strong response to our concerns by adopting resolution 1975 (2011), which encompasses a number of objectives. The first is to strengthen the mandate of UNOCI in terms of the protection of civilians. The second is to impose sanctions against Ivorian individuals who refuse to recognize the polling results and also incite hatred and violence. The third is to prevent the use of heavy weapons against the civilian population. The fourth pertains to a potential referral of the situation to international legal institutions, such as the International Criminal Court, with a view to tracking down the perpetrators of the massive human rights violations in Côte d'Ivoire. The fifth is a demand for the departure of Mr. Gbagbo. Finally, the sixth is the effective installation of the legitimate President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Alassane Ouattara, in full exercise of his functions.

In that regard, my Government would like to pay tribute to the Security Council for its sense of responsibility. Indeed, in taking such measures, which first and foremost strengthen the operational capacity of UNOCI, the Council has demonstrated its sensitivity to the distress calls of the civilian population living in Côte d'Ivoire and currently under threat.

My Government recognizes and once again wishes to pay tribute to the outstanding work of UNOCI. We reaffirm that we intend to spare no effort to ensure that UNOCI fulfils its mandate under the best possible conditions. Furthermore, my delegation reaffirms the consent of the legitimate Government of Côte d'Ivoire to authorize the presence of UNOCI in Ivorian territory. That is why my Government condemns any attack, regardless of its nature, against UNOCI. We also wish to provide assurances that concrete measures will be taken to bring to justice any individual — Ivorian or not — found guilty of attacking not only UNOCI and its personnel, but also any individual residing in the territory of Côte d'Ivoire.

In that connection, my delegation would like to say here that the Forces républicaines de Côte d'Ivoire were not in any way involved in the shots fired at a UNOCI helicopter.

Incidents of post-election violence, which had claimed 860 lives as of 23 March according to the figures provided by the medical and social unit of the Rally of Houphouëtistes for Democracy and Peace, have disfigured our beautiful country. Today, it is imperative to stop the cycle of violence in Côte d'Ivoire and declare an end to impunity. Ivorians wish to re-establish peace and respect for human life. The very painful sacrifices by our brave civilian population during this post-electoral crisis are but a reflection of their deep yearning for the emergence of democracy, the exercise of their fundamental rights and respect for human rights in Ivorian society. That is our priority. In the same vein, during his address to the nation on 15 March, President Alassane Ouattara appealed to all Ivorians for reconciliation and the reconstruction of Côte d'Ivoire in peace and with dialogue, love and fraternity.

While awaiting the establishment of a Government of national unity, whose most important tasks will be national reconciliation and the reform of the defence sector, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire has just set up a presidential emergency programme

funded by \$97 million. The programme's goal is to meet, as rapidly as possible, the most pressing needs of the population stemming from the post-electoral crisis. The programme is focused on the distribution of drinking water, education, electricity and combating unhealthy living conditions.

As a fervent disciple of the late former President Félix Houphouët Boigny, President Alassane Ouattara is a man of peace and dialogue. He wishes to unite all of Côte d'Ivoire's daughters and sons so that they can live together, and together rebuild their country. My delegation would therefore like to reaffirm here the desire of President Ouattara to cooperate fully and with goodwill with the United Nations, the African Union and ECOWAS in the framework of any process of constructive dialogue aimed at restoring lasting peace and security in Côte d'Ivoire.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): There are no further speakers inscribed on my list. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.



Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6509th meeting

Monday, 4 April 2011, 3 p.m.

New York

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Osorio	(Colombia)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalčić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	China	Mr. Li Baodong
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Lebanon	Mr. Salam
	Nigeria	Mr. Onemola
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . .	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

The situation in Libya

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.



The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Expression of thanks to the outgoing President

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): As this is the first meeting of the Council for the month of April, I should like to take this opportunity to pay special tribute, on behalf of the Council, to Mr. Li Baodong, Permanent Representative of China, for his service as President of the Security Council for the month of March 2011. I am sure I speak for all members of the Council in expressing deep appreciation to Ambassador Li and his delegation for the great diplomatic skill with which they conducted the Council's business last month.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Libya

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Abdel-Elah Mohamed Al-Khatib, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, to participate in this meeting.

I give the floor to Mr. Al-Khatib.

Mr. Al-Khatib: I appreciate this opportunity to brief the Security Council on the situation in Libya and to discuss the events that have taken place since the last briefing by the Secretary-General, held on 24 March, including my second mission to the country.

Despite the effectiveness of the efforts made by coalition members to implement a no-fly zone and to protect civilians, the fighting has continued between the ground forces of the armed opposition and Colonel Al-Qadhafi's loyalists. On 31 March, Colonel Al-Qadhafi's ground forces recaptured a strategic oil town, Ras Lanouf, and moved within striking distance of another major eastern city, Brega, nearly reversing the advances made by opposition fighters since international air strikes began on 19 March. Also on 31 March, one of the most senior officials of the regime, Mr. Musa Kousa, Minister for Foreign Affairs, flew to London and declared that he could no longer serve as a representative of the Libyan Government.

Over the weekend, fighting continued in the cities of Misratah, Zawiya and Brega. There are unconfirmed reports that Government forces have started shelling towns southwest of Tripoli. Air strikes also continued

over the weekend around Sirte and Ras Lanouf, 240 and 650 kilometres east of Tripoli, respectively.

At the London Conference on Libya, convened on 29 March by Prime Minister David Cameron, more than 40 representatives, including from the United Nations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the European Union, the League of Arab States and NATO, gathered to take stock of the situation in Libya and to consult on ways in which to help the people of Libya.

As an outcome of the conference, participants agreed to establish an International Contact Group on Libya, which would, first, provide leadership and overall political direction to the international effort, in close coordination with the United Nations, the African Union, the League of Arab States, the OIC and the European Union to support Libya; secondly, provide a forum for coordinating the international response on Libya; and thirdly, provide a focal point in the international community for contact with the Libyan parties.

Although discussions concerning the membership are still ongoing, they tend towards a membership of 12 to 15 that would have a regional balance and include international organizations. Participants in the London Conference welcomed the Secretary-General's offer to take a leading role in the coordination of humanitarian assistance and the planning for longer-term stabilization support.

On 31 March, I undertook my second mission to Libya, starting with a one-day visit to Tripoli, where I met with Libyan Government officials, including Mr. Al Baghdadi Al-Mahmoudi, Secretary-General of the General People's Congress, considered as Prime Minister, and senior members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the People's Congress, including Mr. Abdul-Ati al-Obeidi and Mr. Mohamed Siala, the Secretary-General of the People's Congress.

I reiterated the international community's demand for the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011) and emphasized the urgent need to immediately stop military action, cease all hostilities against the Libyan civilian population and end the siege of all cities and towns. I also stressed the need to respect the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people and secure safe access for humanitarian assistance in all cities and towns, especially Misrata and Zintan, in addition to allowing for the safe return of migrant workers from besieged

cities. I called for the release of all foreign journalists, including the four members of the Al-Jazeera crew.

On 1 April, I went to Benghazi and met with Mr. Mustafa Abdul Jalil, Chairman of the interim Transitional National Council (TNC), and many of the members of the Council. They set out for me their vision of a democratic Libya. The initial priority is to restore constitutional legitimacy through a referendum. It outlines their principles and obligations with respect to political democracy, calling for economic prosperity and development, and the use of science and technology to enhance society, and condemning intolerance, extremism and violence. It also lays out future relations with the international community, whereby they seek regional integration and international cooperation, upholding the values of international justice, citizenship and respect of humanitarian law, and confirms their respect for international treaties and agreements with other States, ensuring international peace and security through cooperation with and peaceful coexistence among nations and peoples.

I briefed the Council on my discussions with the Libyan Government in Tripoli the previous day, and I indicated that the Libyan authorities had informed me of their willingness to accept a ceasefire under the supervision of impartial observers if the TNC did the same. The Chairman stated that the Council was ready and willing to implement a ceasefire provided that the other party did the same and that such a ceasefire included ending the siege on all western cities, withdrawing military forces, including snipers, from the cities, and allowing the population to freely express their position.

Furthermore, they indicated that the aim of the people's uprising was to see the departure of Colonel Al-Qadhafi and that a ceasefire alone would not be sufficient to end the conflict in Libya. However, media reports quote Government statements indicating a rejection of a ceasefire. The Council raised concerns about the lack of funds as well as issues surrounding the marketing and sale of oil and gas in Libya, stressing that the issue required urgent attention in order to enable the economy to function effectively. The Council pointed out that sustainability was dependent on two major sources — loans guaranteed against oil and gas sales and overseas frozen assets.

With respect to the Commission of Inquiry established by the Human Rights Council, the TNC said that it welcomed its establishment and that they were prepared to work closely with the Commission.

During my meeting with the TNC, I received a briefing by one of its members, from the city of Misratah, who had travelled for 30 hours to attend the meeting. He and the other members of the TNC urged that immediate action be taken to put an end to the extremely grave situation that continues to prevail in that city.

On 31 March, as I undertook my second trip to Libya, the African Union held a technical meeting at its headquarters to exchange views on the cessation of hostilities in Libya. The meeting was attended by representatives of the European Union, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations. During the meeting, participants discussed various possible options for resolving the Libyan crisis and modalities for a ceasefire.

I very much welcome the AU effort and strongly hope that the international community will work in unison to bring about a swift end to the violence and suffering of the Libyan people. I also welcome the 25 March ruling of the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights, which calls upon the Libyan Government to refrain from any actions that would result in the loss of life or violation of the physical integrity of persons, and requests that the Government report to it within 15 days on actions taken to comply with this ruling.

Information about the humanitarian situation in Libya remains limited due to lack of access to different parts of the country. However, it is feared that there are significant protection concerns, such as landmines, gender-based violence and human rights violations. Overall, humanitarian conditions, especially in and around areas where fighting is taking place, remain grave, particularly regarding medical and protection needs. These locations also suffer from the disruption of regular services and supply lines.

There have been population movements reported inside Libya around Ajdabiya. According to the International Medical Corps, tens of thousands fled the fighting in the city; while some have returned, as the situation continues to be unstable they may be on the move again. As of 4 April, over 400,000 people had fled Libya. More than 12,000 remain stranded along Libya's borders with Tunisia and Egypt. As of 29 March, the International Organization of Migration and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had provided evacuation assistance for more

than 88,000 people who had left Libya. While the population movement initially consisted of male migrant workers, the number of women and children arriving at border crossing areas has increased slightly over the past week. Some small but increasing numbers of migrant families with women and children crossing the borders are reporting having experienced intimidation, harassment and violence within Libya.

Increasingly, more migrants with significant medical conditions such as injuries, mental health ailments and non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and other cardiovascular diseases have been seen and referred for further treatment and care.

The support provided by the Governments of Tunisia and Egypt to facilitate the work of the humanitarian community has been invaluable, as has been the remarkable outpouring of assistance from local civil society organizations and the people of those countries. As of 3 April, the Flash Humanitarian Appeal for Libya was currently funded at around 70 per cent at \$113 million, with \$1.4 million in pledges. The United Nations has now started its security needs assessments to areas in the east. A humanitarian needs assessment will follow shortly.

Since I assumed the functions of Special Envoy more than three weeks ago, I have made four separate trips to Libya — two to Tripoli, one to Tobruk and another to Benghazi. I have engaged myself fully in establishing contacts with both sides and consulting broadly with the international community. I am prepared to travel again to Libya as the situation requires, and I am planning to undertake further consultations with regional and international parties.

At this time, it is still very difficult to know how long it will take for the Libyan conflict to be resolved. However, responsibility for finding a solution lies with the Libyan people themselves. Furthermore, it is also clear that the international community must continue to come together and do all it can to support this quest for a solution, especially by providing the necessary support for the United Nations to fully implement Security Council resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011).

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): I thank Mr. Al-Khatib for his very comprehensive statement.

I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.